CITY OF BATH

21 JUL 1939

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND OF THE

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1938

JAMES F. BLACKETT, M.D. (Lond.), D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health

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21 JUL 1939

CITY OF BATH.

December, 1938

Mayor : Councillor Capt. A. E. HOPKINS, M.C.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman : Councillor W. Barrett.
The Mayor.

Councillors :—

L. G. Adams	C. W. Maxim	W. J. Say
W. Barrett	H. G. Price	E. J. Tiley
A. E. Cook	L. N. Punter	B. A. H. Woodd
H. Male	S. H. Rawlings	

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

Chairman : Miss Councillor H. F. S. CORBETT
The Mayor,
Alderman Preston King, M.D.

Councillors :—

J. W. Andrews A. W. S. Berry Dr. J. S. Carpenter A. E. Cook
Miss H. F. S. Corbett W. F. Long L. N. Punter
W. J. Say A. H. Smith

Co-opted Members :—

Mrs. Cordiner Miss Ealand Mrs. Hall Mrs. Hocking
Mrs. Marsh Dr. E. Scott White

HOUSING COMMITTEE.

Chairman : Alderman S. DAY.
The Mayor, Aldermen S. Day, G. E. Hiskens, A. A. Hunt, C. H. Long

Councillors :—

S. J. Amblin A. E. Cook H. Male
W. J. Say A. H. Smith

STAFF

December, 1938.

The following particulars are given in accordance with the request of the Ministry of Health

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer :

J. F. Blackett, M.D. (Lond.), D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Deputy School Medical Officer

B. A. Astley Weston,
M.B., B.S., (Bristol), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P H.

Assistant Medical Officers :

Norah D. Pinkerton, M.B., B.S. (Lond.), B.Sc.
H. Campbell, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

City Analyst : *H. F. Barke, F.I.C.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

A. Tyler, Cert. San. I., Meat I., and Smoke I.,
Ollett Medalist

Assistant Inspectors :

W. T. Blake, M.M.,	Cert. San. I.	and Meat. I.	
J. W. Elliott,	do.	do.	
J. D. Dant	do.	do.	
J. Mullin	do.	do.	
Miss C. M. Durward	do.	do.	(from 8.6.'38)

Administrative Tuberculosis Officer :

The Medical Officer of Health

Clinical Tuberculosis Officer :

H. Campbell, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Tuberculosis Health Visitor :

Mrs. B. E. Rose, S.R.N., Ex-Queen's Nurse

Health Visitors—Maternity and Child Welfare :

Miss I. Nash, S.R.N., S.C.M.
Miss G. Sparshatt, S.R.N., S.C.M ; New Health Visitors' Certificate
Mrs E. M. Roberts, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Clerks :

C. J. Pring, Chief Clerk
Miss E. M. Bartlett
R. G. Lavis
R. E. Adams
H. Bond, B.A.
V. G. Fudge

Medical Officers to Ante-Natal and Infant Welfare Centres :
Dr. B. A. Astley Weston
Dr. Norah D. Pinkerton
Dr. H. Campbell

Superintendent of Council Midwives :
*Miss A. Cook

Council Midwives :
M. E. Thomas
E. M. Vigar
A. M. Turney
E. C. Evans

Medical Officer to Venereal Diseases Clinic (at Royal United Hospital)
*Dr. R. Waterhouse

Medical Officer to Orthopædic Clinic :
*Miss Maud F. Forrester-Brown, M.D., M.S. (Lond.).

Public Vaccinators :
Dr. F. Summers
*Dr. J. P. Hosford
*Dr. P. H. Knowles

Vaccination Officer :
C. J. Pring

CITY ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

Medical Superintendent and Medical Attendant :
J. F. Blackett, M.D. (Lond.), D.P.H.

Matron :
Miss M. M. Thompson, S.R.N., S.C.M.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer to Frome Road Institution :
F. Summers, M.B., B.S.

*District Medical Officers :
Dr. J. B. Bennett
Dr. T. C. Halley
Dr. J. P. Hosford
Dr. P. H. Knowles
Dr. R. Lynn
Dr. W. Morris

The Staff of the School Medical Department is given in my Report to the Education Authority.

*Part-time Officer of the Council

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

City and County Borough of Bath.

Health Resort and Chief Town of Somerset.

Area of the Borough, 5152 Statute acres.
Situation—Latitude 51° 23′ N., Longitude 2° 21′ W.
Elevation—Varies from 50 feet above sea level on the lower banks of the Bath Avon to about 550 feet on the South and 700 feet on the North.
Mean elevation—269 feet above sea level.
Geological Formation—Oolitic Clays, Limestones and Sands; Lias and Gravel.
Water—Constant service of moderately hard spring water. Corporation Reservoirs have a total capacity of 63,151,000 gallons. Average daily consumption, 1938, 26.09 gallons per head; 1933-37 22.83 gallons.
Sewage disposal almost exclusively by water carriage. Treated at Saltford.
House refuse removed and cremated by the Sanitary Authority.
Population—1931 Census: Enumerated, 68,815; Resident, 68,375.
Number of inhabited houses, Census 1931, 15,599 (*i.e.*, structurally separate dwellings occupied by private families). Estimate for 1938 exceeds 17,000.
Number of families or separate occupiers, Census 1931, 19,435.

Years ...	1938.	1937.	Mean of 1931-35.	Mean of 1926-30.
Population, estimated	68,300	67,760	68,556	69.536
Rainfall (Mean of 70 yrs., 1866-1935, 31·01 ins)....	28 86	32·74	30·62	33·72
Rateable Value in October ... £	617,384	610,014	577,182	491,895
Rates—Total per £	10/–	10/–	10/–	11/2
One penny General Rate produced ... £	2,390	2,366	2,251	1,921
Total nett indebtedness ... ... £	2,161,682	2,081,500	1,896,791	1,183,799
Ditto per person ... £	31-18-0	30-14-3	27-11-5	17-2-6
MARRIAGES—Number Registered	729	567	552	553
Rate per 1000 population. Bath	21·3	16·7	16·1	15·9
Ditto. England and Wales	17·5	17·4	16·1	15·4
BIRTHS—Number ... ... Bath	863	811	767	834
Rate per 1000 population ... ,,	12·6	12·0	11·2	11·9
Ditto. England and Wales	15·1	14·9	15·0	16·8
Illegitimate births per 1000 Infants born ... ... Bath	46	43	49	53
DEATHS—Number—Bath residents... ...	1028	1044	982	952
Nett rate per 1000 population, Bath	15·1	15·4	14·3	13·6
Standardized rate for age and sex ,,	11·0	11·2	10·5	10·2
Death Rate, England and Wales	11·6	12·4	12·0	12·1
INFANT MORTALITY— ... ... Bath	28	39	42	47
England and Wales	53	58	62	68
Illegitimate Infants ... Bath	25	29	76	79
DEATHS from Diarrhœa & Enteritis (under 2 yrs.)	1	—	3	4
Ditto. Rate per 1000 births, Bath	1·2	—	3·7	4·5
Ditto. do. England and Wales	5·5	5·8	6·2	7·2
PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH—				
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	39	32	40	42
"Other" Tuberculosis	6	4	9	7
Influenza	13	43	32	31

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS—*Continued.*

Years ...	1938	1937	Mean of 1931-35	Mean of 1926-30
Pneumonia	46	54	60	53
Bronchitis	15	20	32	53
Cancer	159	149	142	127
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.... ...	67	39	49	56
Heart Disease	301	297	195	151
Arterial Sclerosis	75	73	85	61
Nephritis	38	38	44	38
Senile Decay	20	32	49	68
Seven principal "Zymotic" Diseases ...	18	3	8	13
Violence	43	42	34	37
DEATH RATES per 1000 population from—				
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0·57	0·47	0·58	0·60
"Other" Tuberculosis	0 09	0·06	0·13	0·09
Seven principal "Zymotic" Diseases ...	0·26	0·04	0·12	0·19
Influenza	0·19	0·63	0·47	0·44
Pneumonia	0·67	0·80	0·88	0·76
Bronchitis	0·22	0·30	0·47	0·76
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs ...	0·09	0 18	0·22	0·19
Cancer	2·33	2·20	2·07	1·82
DEATHS at various age periods—				
Under 1 year	24	32	32	40
1 to 5 years	11	8	14	18
Between 5 and 60 years	257	226	231	248
Over 60 years	736	778	704	647
INFECTIOUS DISEASE—Cases notified				
Diphtheria	181	128	51	52
Scarlet Fever	99	78	130	186
Enteric Fever	2	4	1	9
Small-pox	—	—	—	2
Erysipelas	33	20	17	25
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	5	4	10	9
Puerperal Fever...	—	1	2	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	12	16	18	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	50	38	80	67
"Other" Tuberculosis	9	13	20	19
INFECTIOUS DISEASE—Attack rates per 1000 population—				
Diphtheria	2·65	1·89	0·74	0·74
Scarlet Fever	1·45	1·15	1·89	2·66
Enteric Fever	0·03	0·06	0·01	0·13
Erysipelas	0·48	0 30	0·25	0·36
Puerperal Fever...	—	0·01	0·03	0·04
Puerperal Pyrexia	0·18	0·24	0·26	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0 73	0·56	1·17	0·96
"Other" Tuberculosis	0 13	0·19	0·29	0·27
NUMBER OF DEATHS from—				
Diphtheria	10	3	2	2
Scarlet Fever	3	—	—	2
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas	1	1	2	2
Measles	1	—	3	2
Whooping Cough	3	—	1	2
Puerperal Sepsis	2	—	1	—
DEATH RATES per 1000 population from—				
Diphtheria	0 15	0·04	0·03	0·02
Scarlet Fever	0 04	—	—	0·02
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	0·02
Erysipelas	0 01	0·01	0·03	0·02
Measles	0 01	—	0·04	0·03
Whooping Cough	0·01	—	0·01	0·03
Puerperal Sepsis	0·03	—	0·02	—
VACCINATION—Percentage of Infants vaccinated	* 13	9	14	17

*January to June only.

To His Worship the Mayor and to the Aldermen and Councillors of the City of Bath.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The following Report is drawn up in accordance with instructions contained in the Ministry of Health's Circular No. 1728 of 25th October, 1938. It deals mainly with work carried on in connection with the various departments of the Health Office and with the City's vital statistics. As a combined result of political unrest, new legislation, and local circumstances, the year 1938 proved in several ways to be an abnormal and eventful period.

Staff changes included the resignation of Dr. R. E. Thomas on the ground of ill health after nearly 18 years of valuable service to the City. A tribute to his work has been paid in my Report as School Medical Officer but I should like to refer here to the debt which the Maternity and Child Welfare services owe to his enthusiasm and wide clinical experience. His place was taken by Dr. Astley Weston, late Deputy Medical Officer of the County of Shropshire. Dr. Cormack left to take up a senior post and was followed by Dr. H. Campbell. The Sanitary Inspector's staff was increased by the appointment of a woman Sanitary Inspector, whose duties for some time will be mainly connected with the Council's Housing Estates. It was necessary also to take steps to increase the clerical staff.

It is with great regret that I record the death on May 30th, 1938, of Dr. J. Maurice Harper, who, in addition to being the part-time Medical Officer of Health of the Bathavon Rural District, had for many years acted as Police Surgeon and as Medical Officer to the Mental Deficiency Act Committee under the City Council. In accordance with the general policy of consolidating the Council's medical services in order to obtain increased efficiency and economy the mental

deficiency work will in future be carried on in conjunction with the Health Department under the medical supervision of the Medical Officer of Health (see Council Minutes, 1938, pages 633 and 634).

Important developments took place in connection with the Maternity and Child Welfare services. One of these was the decision to increase the number of city beds in the maternity department at the Royal United Hospital (page 24). The formation of a panel of doctors to be called in by midwives in case of emergency makes little difference at present, but it establishes certain new principles which may have far reaching effects later on (page 23). The scheme established in the hope of encouraging general practitioners to undertake more routine ante-natal and post-natal supervision of their patients, is an interesting experiment. I do not expect much immediate response, however, because for one reason or another enthusiasm for this kind of work is as yet limited to a comparatively small number of practitioners (page 21).

No mention of Air Raid Precautions is made in the body of the Report but it would not be fair to the Health Services generally if all reference to it were omitted. The responsibility for the local organisation of the Casualty Services has been placed by the Government on the Medical Officer of Health and his staff. Further, Bath is a receiving area under the Government's Evacuation Schemes and a large share in the work of preparation has had to be taken by the Sanitary Inspectors. The Health Office has thus shared with other Local Government Departments a heavy additional burden which has necessarily restricted certain of our normal activities. The need for these precautionary measures is not questioned, but it has to be recognised that in effect a new department has been created and that only by meeting the increased demands in regard to staff and accommodation can general all-round efficiency be maintained.

The important section of the Report contributed by the Chief Inspector deserves careful study. Amongst other things it shows the vast amount of routine inspections, of which the public knows little, which is carried out in the interests of the health and amenities of the community. During 1938 all the arrangements for the care and

maintenance of the Public Conveniences in the city were transferred to the Health Department and the Chief Inspector is now responsible for the necessary supervision.

I wish once more to express my grateful appreciation of the help and encouragement received from the Chairmen and members of the ever increasing number of Committees associated with the work of the Health Department. To every member of the staff—medical, technical, nursing and clerical—I offer my sincere thanks for loyal co-operation and efficient service during a strenuous year.

I remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

JAMES F. BLACKETT,

Bath, July, 1939. *Medical Officer of Health.*

Amount of rate in the £ required for certain services:—

	d.
Welfare of the Blind	.6
Isolation Hospital	1.9
Public Conveniences	.5
Sewers and Sewage Disposal	4.0
Collection and Disposal of Refuse	3.3
Maternity and Child Welfare	1.6
Public Assistance	9.8

Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the City of Bath for the Year 1938.

Section A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The City of Bath is a County Borough with an area of 5,152 acres, a boundary line of 14 miles, and an extreme width of just under $3\frac{3}{4}$ miles.

The population is estimated by the Registrar-General to have been 68,300 at the middle of 1938. From 1932 when it was 69,060 until 1937 when it was 67,760 the estimated population had become progressively less. Now we are credited with an increase of 540 in one year. Large numbers of workmen and their families from other areas, and employed in government works a few miles away, were however living in Bath during most of 1938 and many of them have been here for much longer than a year. As a result, although correcting factors have no doubt been applied, an element of uncertainty has been introduced into statistical rates based on population. While it seems clear that the Registrar-General has not included these transferred individuals and families as permanent residents, they are in fact in quite a different category to the temporary visitors associated with spas and holiday resorts. If there is any inaccuracy in the birth, death and attack rates (excluding infant mortality) shown in the summary on pages 6 and 7 and elsewhere it is probable that the figures given are slightly too high.

Bath is to a great extent a residential rather than an industrial city, but there are several large works in which engineering, cabinet making, the manufacture of cloth, and other industries are carried on. Large numbers of visitors come here also to use the baths and for other purposes. These provide occupation and are a source of livelihood to a considerable section of the population. The recent influx of people from the distressed areas and elsewhere referred to above is certainly producing an effect on some of the activities which form the subject matter of this Report.

The unemployment figures for 1938 once more showed an improvement on those for the previous year. In December 1938 the the number of "wholly unemployed" was

		Percentage of Total insurable in group
Men	742	4.0
Boys under 18	7	0.4
Women	145	3.0
Girls under 18	15	1.0
Total	909	

The corresponding total for 1937 was given as 1001. The total of insurable people was 26,353 as compared with 23,288 in 1937.

Details of the number of houses and families, together with much other statistical information, may be found in the Summary on pages 6 and 7.

Vital Statistics. A detailed summary of the vital statistics for 1938 and for several previous years is given on pages 6 and 7. The chief points of interest about those for 1938 are as follows :—

The birth rate was 12.6 as compared with 12.0 and 11.3 in the two previous years, so that the tendency to rise shown since the rate reached its lowest point of 10.6 in 1934 has been continued. The birth-rate for England and Wales was 15.1—it is always much higher than our own, because of the relatively small proportion of married women of child bearing age in Bath,

Our infant mortality—the number of children dying before their first birthday to each thousand births during the year—was 28, easily the lowest yet recorded for Bath. There are 83 County Boroughs. Amongst the 65 from which information has been obtained at the time of writing, ours is much the lowest, while that for England and Wales was 53. Of the 24 deaths which our rate represents, 8 took place within the first week of life and another 9 between that and the end of the third month.

The number of marriages was considerably above the average—729 as compared with 567 in 1937 and an average of 552 for the preceding 10 years. These figures refer to marriages registered as having taken place within the city irrespective of the places of residence of the people concerned. The marriage rate per 1000 population for England and Wales was 17.5 and for Bath 21.3.

The standardised death rate was slightly lower than in 1937—11.0 instead of 11.2. For some help in estimating the significance of the figure representing the death rate see my Report for 1934 (pages 11 and 12). Our "areal comparability factor" or correcting factor, is at present .73.

The following extracts from the vital statistics are given in the form suggested in the Ministry of Health's Circular No. 1728.

	Total.	M.	F.	
Live Births { Legitimate	 823	448	375	} Birth Rate, 12.6
Live Births { Illegitimate	 40	21	19	}
Stillbirths	 26	12	14	Rate per 1,000 total births, 29.2
Deaths	1028	464	564	Death-rate, 11.0

Deaths from puerperal causes* :—	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
Puerperal sepsis ...	2	2.25
Other puerperal causes	1	1.12
Total	3	3 37

Death-rate of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births :—

Legitimate, 28 ; Illegitimate, 25 ; Total, 28.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ...	159
,, ,, Measles (all ages) ...	1
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	3
,, ,, Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	1

* See also page 25

Section B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Laboratory Facilities. The arrangements available for the examination of clinical material are indicated on page 42. The analyses of water, milk and foodstuffs, are carried out almost entirely by the City Analyst, who is a part-time officer, in his own laboratory. For the nature and amount of work done see pages 59 to 63, and also the references to the public water supply on page 31.

Ambulance Facilities. (*a*) Infectious cases are dealt with by the motor ambulance kept at the City Isolation Hospital. This is used mainly to take patients to the Hospital, but is available also for other suitable cases requiring to be moved. (*b*) Non-infectious and accident cases. The City Council has three ambulances under the control of the Watch Committee, and the St. John Ambulance Association three, available for ordinary cases at reasonable charges. The general purposes van at Frome Road House has fitments enabling it to be used as an ambulance. These arrangements appear to be adequate for the needs of the city.

Nursing in the Home. There has been no change in the arrangements with the Bath District Nursing Association under which the services of the district nurses are available for certain types of illness. Payment for these services on an agreed scale is made through the Health and the Maternity and Child Welfare Committees. A detailed description of the scheme was given on page 14 of my Report for 1935. During 1938, 3,420 visits were made at a total cost to the Council of £140 0s. 9d. This does not include the work done by the City Midwives (see page 22). In addition, the Council contributes £60 a year to the Association through the Health Committee (formerly through the Public Assistance Committee) without reference to specific services.

The Bath District Nursing Association, is affiliated to the Queen's Institute, and provides an adequate and efficient service for the whole city. Its income is derived largely from a contributory

DAYS AND TIMES OF ATTENDANCE.

	See also page	Monday	Tuesday	We'n'day	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Infant Welfare							
Centres :—							
*Blue Coat House ...	26		2.30—4			2.30—4	
Walcot	,,			2.30—4	2.30—4		
Oldfield Park	,,			2.30—4			
†Southdown	,,		9.30 to 11.15				
Odd Down	,,		2.30—4				
Ante-Natal Clinics :							
45 Rivers Street ...	21		2.30—4	2.30—4			
*Blue Coat House ...	,,			10—12			
***Maternity& Child Welfare**							
Dental Clinic ...	27						10—12
Mothers							
Special Clinic for ...	30	...	...	By appointment		...	...
Tuberculosis—							
Dispensary... ...	48	10—4			2—7		
Artificial Sunlight Treatment ...	49	...	...	By appointment		...	...
Mental Treatment ...	19	...	...Friday by appointment			...	...
Venereal Diseases							
Clinic—Men	50					5—6.30	5 6.30
Women ...	,,		5—6.30				
School Clinics—							
*Inspection	...	2—4.30	2—4.30		2—4.30	2—4.30	
*Eye	...	10.15		10.15			
*Dental	...	9.30—5	9.30—5	9.30—5	9.30—5	9.30—5	
Ear, Nose and Throat :							
*Blue Coat House ...	...	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30
Royal United Hospital	...					2.0‖	
Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital ...	...				9.30		
*Minor Ailments Clinic	...	2—4.30	2—4.30	2—4.30	2—4.30	2—4.30	9.30—11
*Orthopædic After-care Clinic ...				2—4			
Orthopaedic Hospital Massage ...		...	...	Daily by appointment. ...			...

* These Clinics are held at Blue Coat House. † 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of Month,
‖ 3rd Friday of month by appointment.

scheme under which some 7,000 members pay at the rate of 1d. a week, and partly from voluntary subscriptions and payments from the Local Authority. Apart from the midwives, there are 9 whole-time fully qualified general nurses, who paid 34,021 visits to 1,188 patients during the year ended 31st March, 1939.

Hospitals : Public and Voluntary. On pages 16 to 20 of my Report for 1935 I gave details of the various Hospitals in the city and of the extent to which their services are available to patients for whom the Council accepts responsibility. There has been no important change since then, but the following notes may be added.

Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases—formerly the Royal Mineral Water Hospital. For over 200 years this hospital has been carrying on its work on a national basis and at the present time only about 3% of its patients come from Bath. It now seems destined to play an important part in the national effort being made to deal effectively with a group of diseases increasingly recognised as constituting an evil of the first magnitude. The Hospital is to be transferred from its present cramped quarters to a new and thoroughly up to date building to be erected on a site provided by the City Council. The Council are also co-ordinating in connection with research laboratories and in other ways. It is hoped that the foundation stone will be laid during the summer of 1939.

The Royal United Hospital. Two important schemes were under consideration during the year. One was the provision of an urgently needed new Nurses' Home, and the other the addition, in conjunction with the City Council, of 12 beds to the existing maternity department (see page 24).

Frome Road Infirmary. In my last report I spoke of a scheme for giving a modified course of training to those desiring to become assistant nurses but unwilling or unable to to take the examinations necessary for state registration. This scheme is referred to at some length in a special report printed in the Council Minutes for 1938, pp. 853-856. See also pages 79 and 80 of the 1939 Minutes. It came into operation early in 1939.

A portable but efficient X-ray apparatus was purchased during 1938, and has proved of much value in suitable cases.

Some idea of the amount of work carried on at the Infirmary may be obtained from the following figures for 1938 :—

Admissions (including 14 births) ...	528
Discharges and deaths	526
Duration of stay :	
Under four weeks	335
4—13 weeks	95
Over 13 weeks	96
	526

There are 367 beds allocated thus : Chronic sick, 166 ; Tuberculosis, 19 ; Maternity, 6 ; Sick Children, 38 ; Isolation, 6 ; Mental cases, 132. Number occupied : highest, 319 ; lowest, 288 ; average, 302.

Local Government Act, 1929. No change took place during 1938 in the administration of the institutional medical services transferred under this Act. Since April 1st, 1933, the Medical Officer of Health has been responsible for the general oversight of the medical services of the Public Assistance Committee as well as of other Committees of the Council.

Poor Law Medical Out-Relief. The city is divided for this purpose into six districts for each of which one general practitioner living in or near the district is appointed. Their names are given on page 5. Careful and prolonged consideration has been given to the problem of introducing an "open choice" system of attendance but no practicable solution has yet been found. The financial burden associated with the cost of compensation for loss of superannuation rights is much less than it would have been a few years ago and all new appointments are made under conditions which will not hinder a change of system when on other grounds the time is opportune. The average number chargeable (year ended 31st March, 1939) was 888, as compared with 888, 884, 987 and 937, during the four previous years.

Other Poor Law Relief. The following figures are of interest :—

	Average number chargeable year ended March 31st.	
	1939	1938
*At Frome Road House	367	359
Children's Homes	28	22
Mental Hospitals (Wells & Codford) ...	218	212
At Special Schools	15	16
Boarded-out Children	27	30

* including Infirmary, Mental, and other wards, but not casuals.

Institutional Provision for the Care of Mental Defectives.

(a) Bathwick Old Rectory. This is a Hostel to provide a modified form of care for specially selected high grade mental defectives who have been in other institutions. Many of them do daily work outside the institution. There were two Bath City cases—one an inmate, and the other absent on licence. The Hostel, which is officially recognised by the Board of Control, was opened in 1930, and provides accommodation for 21 patients.

(b) The House of Help at 112, Walcot Street, belongs to the Bath Preventive Mission. It is a recognised residential institution for 66 women and girls who are mental defectives. Seven of the inmates are Bath cases maintained by the City Council. In addition, one Bath patient was absent on licence from the Home.

(c) The Council has an agreement with the Bristol City Council under which 30 places are available for Bath cases at Hortham Colony near Bristol. Nearly the full number were in use at the end of 1938.

(d) Ten mental defectives are maintained by the Council at Stoke Park Colony, near Bristol.

(e) Frome Road House is certified for the reception of 10 male mental defectives. Four of the number were Bath cases.

(f) Royal Fort Home, Bristol. This is a home for 30 high grade female defectives over 16 years of age and belongs to the Bristol City Council. One Bath patient is absent on licence from the Home.

MENTAL TREATMENT

In my last Report, I referred to the opening in November, 1937, of the "Weston Lodge" Nursing Home for women suffering from nervous disorders. The Home belongs to the City Council, and is under the immediate control of the Mental Treatment Act Committee. It is intended essentially for observation and border line patients and those suffering from the less severe forms of mental and nerve trouble. The underlying idea is the belief that suitable early treatment may often lead to cure and avoid the necessity for certification which might otherwise arise at a later stage. Certified patients cannot be admitted.

"Weston Lodge" is a large house, standing in 13 acres of ground, and contains accommodation for 16 patients. Extensive renovations and alterations were carried out in accordance with a scheme approved by the Board of Control. Adequate arrangements are made for medical attendance (see Council Minutes, 1939, page 74). Occupational therapy, hydrotherapy and other modern methods of treatment are provided. Charges are assessed according to income, but it is intended that no woman shall be excluded through inability to afford the fees. Patients from outside the city are accepted at full rates if accommodation is available.

Between November 20th, 1937 and April 1st, 1938, sixteen patients were admitted and nine discharged. Figures for the year ending 31st March, 1939, include the following:—

	Bath Cases	Others
In residence, 1st April, 1938	6	1
Admitted	30	18
Discharged improved	17	10
,, not improved	1	1
,, to Institutions	7	1
Died	4	1
In residence, 31st March 1939	7	6

The weekly out-patient clinic for men and women, formerly held at the Royal United Hospital, was transferred in January, to "Weston Lodge." The 1938 Report of the Medical Officers in Charge, is printed in full on pages 512-514 of the Council Minutes for 1939. Twenty-

eight new and 6 old patients made 115 attendances (23, 9, and 132 in 1937). Two of the new patients were sent to Wells Mental Hospital and 5 admitted to "Weston Lodge." The conditions dealt with were classified thus:—Anxiety neurosis, 8; other forms of neurosis, 8; dementia praecox, 4; delusional insanity, 2; melancholia, 7; mental deficiency, 5.

The Mental Treatment Act Committee also provides for the out-patient care of children by accepting joint responsibility with the Education Authority for a Child Guidance Clinic. This is described in my Report as School Medical Officer, and in the separately published Third Report of the Clinic, dealing in detail with the first 200 cases.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

(For number of births, birth-rates, infant mortality and maternal mortality, see pages 12 and 13).

The Maternity and Child Welfare Committee is responsible to the Council for carrying out a comprehensive scheme which includes the following:—

Two Ante-Natal Clinics. (3 sessions weekly).
Supervision of Midwives under the Midwives Acts.
Municipal Midwifery Service (in association with the Bath District Nursing Association).
Maternity Department with ten beds at the Royal United Hospital.
Three Health Visitors.
Five Infant Welfare Centres.
Provision of Milk for Mothers and Infants.
Supervision of boarded-out children under Part VII of the Public Health Act, 1936.
Dental Service.
"Birth Control" Clinic.
Supply of Maternity Outfits.
Facilities for dealing with crippling defects in infants, ophthalmia neonatorum, puerperal fever and puerperal pyrexia, and with certain other diseases.

Some details of the work done during 1938, are given below. A statistical summary for the ten years 1926-1935 is given on pages 32 and 33 of my Report for 1935.

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Supervision. In the following table relating to the ante-natal clinics, the figures in brackets are those for 1937.

	Rivers Street.	Blue Coat House.
Day	Tuesday and Wednesday	Wednesday
Time	2.30-4	10-12
Medical Officer in charge	Dr. Thomas (till October)	Dr. Pinkerton
Number of sessions held ...	102 (71)	50 (49)
Number of new patients ...	366 (288)	125 (123)
Total attendances ...	1461 (1048)	665 (571)
Average per session ...	14 (15)	13 (12)
Ante-natal home visits by City Midwives ...	2072 (1867)	
Proportion of new patients to all births registered ...	50% (45%)	

In connection with both ante-natal and post-natal examinations and treatment, there are obvious advantages in having the work done by the practitioner, who, if medical aid is required would be (or has been) in attendance at the confinement. To encourage such continuity of treatment in co-operation with the general practitioner, the Council have now made arrangements which are here briefly summarised. The scheme is intended for uninsured patients who have engaged a midwife and do not propose to engage a doctor. It allows midwives to offer their patients examination by a practitioner as an alternative to the municipal clinics, on the understanding that the Council will pay certain approved fees, which cover examination, advice and report. The fees are one guinea for three ante-natal consultations and 7/6d. for one post-natal consultation. If as a result of an examination, medical treatment is considered necessary, the midwife is advised so that she can act in accordance with the Central Midwives Board Rules. Appropriate forms have been drawn up, but the procedure has been simplified as much as possible.

MIDWIVES

Our scheme under the 1936 Midwives Act, as I explained in my last Report, is carried on in conjunction with the Bath District Nursing Association, but paid for entirely by the City Council. Some details of the work of the City Midwives are given below.

Two midwives, one of whom practised partly in Bath and partly in the County of Somerset, were required to surrender their Certificates under Section 5 of the 1936 Act, on the ground of age or infirmity. In one case, the compensation was £233, and in the other, £146, (£50 from City and £96 from County).

During 1938 the number of midwives signifying their intention to practise in the City was 40. Of these, 15 worked solely in Hospitals and 11 in connection with nursing associations. Of the 14 private midwives, (some in nursing homes), one, with her assistant had 74 cases ; one had 72 ; one had 28, and the others less than 10 each.

The number of confinements attended by all midwives was 823 —last year it was 791.

Births registered numbered 976.

Altogether, a doctor was called in under the Rules of the Central Midwives Board on 274 occasions for various emergencies in connection with births and miscarriages. These emergencies may be grouped as follows :

Complications of labour	113
Ante-natal conditions	119
Post-natal condition of mother ...	20
Unsatisfactory condition of child ...	22

The medical officers act as Inspectors of Midwives, and all Midwives are visited regularly. No serious breach of the rules of the Central Midwives Board came to our notice in 1938.

City Midwives Four whole-time Midwives are employed, but additional services are available from the general staff of the Nursing Association in times of stress or for holiday duty. They live in their district, and are on the telephone. A car allowance of 3d. a mile is made for Midwives who use their own car on duty.

	1938.	1937.	1936.
Number of cases	316	313	266
Cost for year ended March 31st, after deducting patients' payments	£641	£561	£548

(For comparison, the cost given in reports prior to 1936 must be doubled—see note on page 20 of 1936 Report).

Medical Practitioners called in by Midwives. The procedure suggested in Circular 1705 of June 14th, 1938, was adopted by the Council, and a list of practitioners approved by the Local Authority for the purpose of being called in by Midwives under Rule 12 of the Central Midwives Board in cases of emergency, was prepared. The first list contains the names of 28 doctors all recommended for approval by the Medical Advisory Committee, the Chairman of which is the Medical Officer of Health. Midwives are requested to restrict their calls as far as possible, to practitioners in this list. In exceptional cases only, and where none of those mentioned is acceptable to the expectant mother, another doctor chosen by her may be summoned.

Midwifery Fees paid to Doctors, under Section 14 of the Midwives Act, 1918. The liability incurred during the year ended March 31st, 1939, was £447 and the amount recovered from patients was £138. The Council has power to recover these fees from the patient or those responsible for her, unless they are satisfied that "by reason of poverty" this should not be done. Claims for remission are dealt with by a special sub-committee of the Maternity Committee.

Home Helps. A scheme for establishing a service of Home Helps for those who require it, has received the sanction of the Council, and it is hoped to have it in working order during 1939.

Sterilised Maternity Outfits are kept at the Health Office and may be obtained by Midwives or on their recommendation. They are supplied at cost price, or if the circumstances justify it, either at a reduced charge or free. No applications were received during 1938.

MATERNITY BEDS

The City has the right to nominate patients to ten of the beds in the twenty-bed maternity unit at the Royal United Hospital. The terms of our agreement with the Hospital were summarised on pages 18 to 20 of my Report for 1933. The ten beds must be paid for, whether occupied or not. Additional patients may be admitted at the same rate if room is available, but an extra charge is only made to the extent that the total occupation of beds exceeds 520 weeks in the year.

During the first six years, 1933-1938, the accommodation actually provided for Bath mothers under the scheme expressed as a percentage of that represented by ten beds constantly occupied, was 89, 94, 124, 109, 105, and in 1938, 115. The accommodation proved to be increasingly inadequate, partly because more patients were dealt with, and partly because fewer non-City beds were available. Another factor, of course, is the wide variations from the average which occur in work of this kind. Although the number of patients averaged 11½ during the year, there were actually less than 10 on 65 days, and 15 or over on 18 days. The highest number was 17, and the lowest 7. When necessary, arrangements are made for anyone whose admission would lead to overcrowding, to go, without additional cost, to the Forbes Fraser Hospital, or to a private nursing home. Much greater use had to be made of this rather expensive alternative in 1938 (37 patients, as compared with 7 in 1937).

Under all the circumstances and after very careful consideration, the Committee recommended the Council to extend the existing scheme from 10 to 16 beds by sharing with the Royal United Hospital, the capital costs of a new twelve-bed section of the Maternity Department. It is hoped that this will be ready before the end of 1939.

	1938	1937
* Number of new patients admitted	228	211
Number of primipara included	119	119
Number of readmissions	9	14
Number of confinements	213	203
† Cases in which midwife had entire charge	60	59

(Continued on next page)

	1938	1937
Number of " patient-days "	4205	3843
Ante-natal	886	784
Confinement and after	3319	3059
Total available (10 beds)	3650	3650
Proportion actually used	115%	105%
Maternal deaths	0	0
Stillbirths	6	21
Deaths of Infants within 10 days	0	11
Weekly maintenance rate	£3 2 5	£2 18 7½
Income received from patients	£994	£819

* This figure refers to individual mothers admitted for the first time (for that pregnancy) during the year. They were not necessarily confined during the year.

† *i.e.*, no doctor engaged or called in at any stage while patient was in Hospital.

The figures given above are taken from Health Office records. They may differ slightly from those of the Hospital.

Patients admitted within three days of birth of child are not considered as having had ante-natal treatment. Otherwise, treatment is counted as ante-natal up to the day before birth.

According to the Hospital statistics midwives are responsible for actual deliveries in about two thirds of all our cases.

The maintenance rate for 1939 is to be £3 4s. 2d.

Maternal Mortality. Three deaths occurred, giving a rate of 3.37. As I explained in my last Report, a death which took place on December 30th, 1937, is included in our figures for that year, but as it was not registered until January 1st, it appears in the Registrar-General's statistics for 1938.

Details of the cases are as follows:—

(*a*) Age 30. First child. Death due to sepsis following Caesarean section because of inadequate pains. Labour had been induced at 36 weeks for contracted pelvis. Full ante-natal care. Patient's home in Bath, but all treatment at Bristol, where death took place.

(*b*) Age 29. Third child. Ante-natal history satisfactory. Difficult forceps confinement with hydramnios and manual removal of adherent placenta. Sepsis, and death on 10th day.

(*c*) Age 30. First child. Caesarean section for post-maturity and brow presentation. Some history of previous iliac thrombosis. Full ante-natal care. Sudden death on 21st day from pulmonary embolism.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

No important changes took place during 1938, and the attendances were well maintained. It is now a quarter of a century since the first Centre was established at Rosewell House. During the whole of that time, the Council has received the constant assistance of a long succession of voluntary helpers, without whom the work could never have been developed in the way that it has. The debt of gratitude due to the various voluntary associations is fully and gratefully acknowledged by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee and the Council.

Separate reports are published and sent to all members of the Council.

At the end of 1938 there were five Centres :

1. Blue Coat House, established (at Rosewell House) in 1913. Sessions on Tuesday and Friday afternoons.
2. Walcot, at Snow Hill Hall. Established in 1918. Sessions on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons.
3. Twerton, at Oldfield Park Baptist Schoolroom. Established in 1919. Sessions on Wednesday afternoons.
4. Southdown, established at St. Barnabas Hall in 1929 and transferred to Infants' School in October 1936. Sessions on second and fourth Tuesday mornings, of each month.
5. Odd Down, at the New Hall. Established in 1934. Sessions on Tuesday afternoons.

	Blue Coat House.	Walcot.	Twerton.	South-down.	Odd Down.
Number of sessions ...	93	94	46	22	47
Attendances of children	3564	3155	1866	519	1594
New cases included in above	273	237	131	35	66
Average attendance of Infants per session ...	38.3	33.6	40.6	23.6	33.9

The attendances recorded above are those in which the child was seen by the doctor. The table shows that there were 10,698 consultations at 302 sessions, an average of 35.4 per session. (In 1937, the figures were 10,634; 300; and 35.4). In addition, there were 4,703 visits of

infants for weighing, renewal of milk applications, and so forth, for whom a consultation with the doctor was not necessary. If mothers and infants are counted separately, it will be seen that the voluntary workers helped to deal with something like 30,000 attendances.

SUPPLY OF MILK TO NECESSITOUS MOTHERS AND CHILDREN.

No change was made in the conditions under which applications are granted. Careful enquiries are made in every case.

	1938	1937	Average 1931-35
Average daily number of individuals receiving free milk	361	345	316
Average daily distribution in gallons (dried milk counted as if reconstituted)	43	41	38
Total number of families assisted during the year	648	683	567
Approximate cost for year ended 31st March following	£1,482	£1,489	£1,375

Dental Service. By arrangement with the Education Committee the School Dental Department is available for the treatment of expectant and nursing mothers, and the Saturday morning sessions are a permanent part of the Maternity and Child Welfare scheme. The figures for 1938 include the following:—

Number of sessions	43
New patients called to Clinic	108
Patients actually attended (78 new and 9 old) ...	87
Total attendances	309
Extractions	473
Fillings	20
Scalings	13
Dentures (17 patients)	28
Dentures repaired	2

Institutional Provision for Mothers or Children is available through the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee in the maternity ward at the Royal United Hospital and through the Public Assistance Committee at Frome Road House. Voluntary agencies include the Bath Vigilance and Rescue Association Home at 12, Walcot Parade and the Salvation Army.

Health Visitors. There are three whole-time Health Visitors, and one half-time assistant whose work is mainly confined to the Infant Welfare Centres. All are fully trained nurses. In addition to the ordinary home visiting, each Health Visitor helps at the Infant Welfare Centres and acts as a visitor under the Child Life Protection clauses of the Public Health Act, 1936. See also next paragraph.

The visits paid during 1938 were as follows :—

To children under one year	4,069
To children between one and five ...	5,707
Others	1,610
	11,386

Child Life Protection. The duties laid down in Part VII of the Public Health Act, 1936, are carried out by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee under conditions which have been described in previous reports. The necessary enquiries are made by the Medical Officer of Health, and the Health Visitors, who follow up each case by regular visits to the homes (135 visits in 1938).

Number of Names.	Foster Parents.	Infants.
On Register at end of 1937 ...	39	42
Added during the year ...	14	24
Removed during the year ...	20	30
On Register December 31st, 1938	33	36

Four children were under the care of more than one foster-mother during the year.

Orthopædic Treatment. The following figures refer to non-tuberculous infants below school age dealt with under the Maternity and Child Welfare scheme during 1938 :—

Patients who received residential treatment at the Bath and Wessex Children's Orthopædic Hospital	9
Attendances at After-Care Clinic	257
Attendances at Massage Clinic	344

A more complete account of the Council's orthopaedic work among children is given in my Report to the Education Authority for 1938, pages 13 to 15.

Nursing and Maternity Homes The general position is as described in my last Report. The changes during 1938 are shown below.

The existence of Homes unknown to us, and therefore unregistered, is always possible. So many sources of information—including birth and death notifications, reports from Health Visitors and others, advertisements in the local papers—are available to us however, that if there are any, the number must be very small, and none are likely to remain undiscovered for long.

A practical difficulty sometimes arises when a woman with some nursing experience takes an elderly or debilitated person into her home and maintains that she is acting as the keeper of a boarding house and not as a nurse. We try to exercise a reasonable discretion in these cases, and I do not think there has been any failure to act in accordance with the intentions of the Public Health Acts.

All the homes are inspected regularly by one of the medical officers. All appear to be well conducted, though in one or two we feel that without careful supervision, the standard which we consider to be a proper one, might not be maintained.

	Nursing Homes only.	Maternity Homes only.	Combined Nursing & Maternity.
On Register at beginning of 1938 ...	7	3	8
Applications during 1938 ...	1	1*	1*
Number registered	1	1	1
Cancelled through closure of Home...	1	0	0
Cancelled on change of ownership...	0	0	2*
Removed to another category (changed to Maternity only) ...	0	0	1
Appeals and applications for exemption	0	0	0
Registered at end of 1938 ...	7	4	7

* On change of ownership

"BIRTH CONTROL" CLINIC

This Clinic, established in April, 1931, is carried on in accordance with the standards laid down by the Ministry of Health—that is to say, that advice in regard to contraception is limited to those married women attending the Council's Centres for whom further pregnancy is considered likely on medical grounds to be detrimental to health. It is under the administrative control of the Medical Officer of Health, through whom all arrangements must be made. Selected patients are referred for appropriate advice to a lady doctor practising in Bath. They are seen at her surgery, and she receives from the Council, a fixed fee for each case. Twenty-four cases were referred to the Clinic and twenty attended. All who went were considered suitable for instruction in contraceptive methods. In most instances, the patient was suffering from severe debility, or anaemia, or varicose veins, usually following too frequent or too many pregnancies.

ADOPTION OF CHILDREN ACT, 1926

At the request of the Magistrates, the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee has agreed to act as "guardian ad litem" under Section 8 of the Act in connection with cases coming before the Court of Summary Jurisdiction in Bath. Investigations are made by me personally on behalf of the Committee, and a written report is sent for the information of the Magistrates.

During 1938, thirteen cases were investigated, bringing the total number up to 150 since the Act came into force on January 1st, 1927. In every case, the child was already living with the applicant or applicants. All the applications were granted unconditionally. Except in one instance, the applications were made jointly by husband and wife. Six of the children were under one, and all under four. Three of them were legitimate, five illegitimate. In five, there seemed to me to be a real doubt as to whether the child was or was not legitimate (a legal decision was not sought). No part of my work brings me in touch with more curious and interesting "human" stories than this one concerned with applications for adoption. They cannot be described here, nor indeed anywhere except under strict anonymity, because of their confidential nature. Psychological

difficulties must, I am sure, arise sooner or later in many cases, but even in these the alternative might have been worse. In any event, and in spite of the obvious dangers to which adoption might lend itself, the advantages following the 1926 Act have on balance far exceeded the disadvantages.

Section C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water. Bath's water supply is obtained from springs which flow out at two geological levels, at the bases of the upper and lower oolites. The higher and more superficial springs respond more quickly to changes in the rainfall than the deep ones. Typical analyses made in 1938 of water as supplied to the consumer, are given below.

(Results expressed in parts per 100,000).

Chemical	Langridge 12th April	Oakford 27th Sept.
Saline Ammonia	.0140	.0001
Albuminoid Ammonia	.0030	.0004
Nitrogen as Nitrate	.169	.082
Nitrite	absent	absent
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 4 hours at 80 deg. F.	.024	.004
Chlorine as Chloride	1.5	1.7
Total dissolved solids	37.0	39.0
Earthy Carbonates	22.0	24.5
Earthy Salts not Carbonates	4.0	5.0
Hardness	27.0	30.5
Poisonous Metals	absent	absent
Sediment	nil	very small
Free Chlorine	.015	.002

Bacteriological	Langridge 12th April	Oakford 27th Sept.
Organisms growing on gelatine at 22°C	0 per c.c.	0 per c.c.
Organisms liquefying gelatine ...	0 per c.c.	0 per c.c.
Organisms growing on Agar at 37° C ...	1 per c.c.	0 per c.c.
B. Coli Communis	abs. fr. 100 c.c	abs. fr. 100 c.c.
B. Enteriditis Sporogenes	absent	absent

No restrictions in the supply were needed, and there were ample reserves.

Important schemes for extensions to meet the changing needs brought about by the development of new housing estates and in other ways, were under consideration during the year. Special attention was paid in this connection to the desirability of protecting the system against the danger of air raids.

Although a vast majority of Bath houses receive their water supply from the public mains, a few private sources are still in use. A careful investigation as to the purity and safety of these was made during the year, and the results are referred to on page 59.

The work of replacing the old type of ball hydrants by those with spring-controlled elements, has now been completed.

Another important matter dealt with, was the possible contamination of the water supply from a carrier of disease among the workmen or others employed near the reservoirs. After consultation with the Pathologist at the Central Laboratory, I drew up a scheme which seems to me to give as complete a protection as the present state of our knowledge will allow. The advice of the Ministry of Health was also sought and no modifications or additions were suggested. The scheme includes an enquiry into the medical history of each individual concerned, and an appropriate clinical examination.

The four collecting and seven service reservoirs have an aggregate capacity of 63,151,000 gallons. This includes 51,971,137 gallons at Monkswood, and 9,334,564 at Batheaston.

Swimming Baths Although the need for providing additional facilities is generally recognised, no definite scheme has yet been accepted by the Council. In my last Report, I referred to various difficulties which had arisen. The only progress since made, has been the allocation of the Wood Street Clearance Area as a site on which to construct a new covered swimming bath.

Drainage and Sewerage Nearly the whole of the sewage of Bath is dealt with by a combined water carriage system which conveys it in the first place to a pumping station at Twerton. From

here, it is forced through a 30-in. main for over 5 miles to the Sewage Works at Saltford, where the harmless effluent is discharged into the Avon. As I have stated in previous Reports, there still remain a few cases in which the contents of the house drains can reach the river direct. This is most undesirable and constitutes a potential danger to health, for which a remedy should be found without further delay.

The measures taken to prevent flooding in the Lyncombe Vale district, to which I referred a year ago, have proved successful. A somewhat similar problem arose in Fairfield Park and has now been dealt with satisfactorily by means of a new surface water drainage system.

Rivers and Streams Except as described above, no serious pollution of the Avon likely to cause injury to health is known to have occurred during the year. We have, however, found it necessary to take steps to deal with a certain amount of pollution from industrial effluents.

Closet Accommodation A special enquiry is being made in regard to cesspools and earth or pail closets. Although the number is not very great—probably between a hundred and two hundred—it is important to know the location of all of them, so that they may be kept under observation, and undesirable conditions reduced to a minimum.

Public Cleansing The six new vehicles mentioned in my last Report, are now in use, and cover most of the city. The whole of the old type refuse collecting vehicles have now been abandoned and have been replaced by modern vehicles.

Disposal of the Dead No matters of special interest arose during 1938.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area. Full details will be found in the Chief Inspector's Report on pages 52 to 71 and no further reference is needed here.

Smoke Abatement. See pages 65 and 66.

Schools Matters of interest in connection with Schools are referred to in my Report to the Education Authority. The fact that the Medical Officer of Health is also School Medical Officer enables a very close co-operation between the Health and School Medical Departments to be secured.

Section D

HOUSING

In a note dealing with the general position in regard to Housing in Bath, I drew attention in my last Report to (*a*) the increasing demand on the part of the working-class population for conditions much better than those which only a few years ago they accepted without complaint; (*b*) the progressive deterioration which, combined with the higher minimum standards now required, is rather rapidly bringing large numbers of our older working-class houses into the category of the unfit; (*c*) the fact that applications for Council houses are many times in excess of those which it is at present possible to grant; and (*d*) the difficulties created by the high and even exhorbitant rents sometimes charged for ordinary houses. These factors still dominate the situation and, as I have pointed out, considerable extensions to the Council's existing estates will be necessary if we are to raise the general standard of housing in the City in the way generally accepted as necessary. The 538 houses now under construction at Southdown will be a welcome and valuable contribution, but they must be followed by many more.

Our activities during 1938 can conveniently be referred to under the following headings: (A) individual unfit houses; (B) unhealthy areas; (C) overcrowding; and (D) re-housing.

(A). Individual Unfit Houses. Details of action taken are included in the following table which is set out in the form prescribed by the Ministry of Health. A large majority of notices requiring defects to be remedied in dwelling houses are served under the Public Health Acts. The Housing Acts are used either when considerable structural repairs are involved (Section 9 of the 1936 Act), or when the houses are considered to be unfit for habitation and unable at reasonable expense to be made fit (Section 11). In the first case we serve a specification of the repairs required, and in the second a demolition order normally follows unless the owner submits some approved alternative scheme for dealing with his property.

HOUSING STATISTICS

Number of new houses erected during the year 1938 :—

By the Local Authority	62
By other bodies and persons	209
	271

1. *Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—*

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 605

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 2697

(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 42

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 74

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 214

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 262

2. *Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of formal Notices :—*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 227

3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—*

(a.) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 20

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

(*a*) By owners 13

(*b*) By local authority in default of owners ... —

Continued on next page.

(b.) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 233

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—

(*a*) By owners 37

(*b*) By local authority in default of owners ... —

(c.) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made... 10

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 17

In addition 3 houses were demolished in anticipation of formal procedure.

(d.) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ... —

In addition 3 Basements were closed on voluntary undertakings that they be not relet as a separate tenement.

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... —

4. *Housing Act,* 1936—*Overcrowding.*

(a)—(i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 99

(ii) Number of families dwelling therein 128

(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein 557

(b)—Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year 43

(c)—(i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 75

(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases ... 454

Continued on next page.

(d)—Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... 1

(e)—Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report. See below.

(B) Unhealthy Areas. In previous reports, I have given details of 14 officially represented areas in regard to which the Ministry's decision had been received. The number of houses confirmed was finally settled as 248, with 796 inhabitants. At the end of 1938, enquiries were pending in connection with 10 more areas involving 148 houses inhabited by 506 people.

(The enquiry was held in March, 1939, and confirmation was received for 147 houses with 502 inhabitants).

A number of other areas containing several hundred houses are under consideration and are likely to be represented in due course.

As far as actual achievement since 1933 is concerned, the position at the end of 1938 in regard to the confirmed areas was as follows:—

	At end of 1937	During 1938	At end of 1938
No. of persons displaced	534	118	652
,, ,, ,, awaiting displacement	251	—	144
,, ,, houses demolished	123	15	138
,, ,, ,, to be demolished ...	—	—	110

NOTE.—The final figures for the Dolemeads and Wood Street houses were 80 and 60.

Figures representing the number of inhabitants are approximate only and refer to a particular date. Owing to changes in tenancies, subsequent enumerations which may be necessary are likely to give different results.

(C) Overcrowding. The official figures relating to 1938 are to be found on page 36, but they do not in themselves provide a complete picture of the situation. The legal standard of overcrowding is a low one, and many very undesirable conditions may occur either through stress of circumstance or by deliberate intention which we have to tolerate because they are within the framework of the law. For example, technical overcrowding may not exist because of the assumption that a child may sleep in the one living room—but if he does so, it obviously means late

hours and interrupted sleep. Again, overcrowding has to be considered in relation to the house and not to the individual rooms, so that it is possible to have premises occupied by less than the permitted number and yet to have several persons sleeping in one small room. There is no doubt that the large influx of people from other areas into Bath has, through no fault of theirs, led to a serious and widespread lowering of the standard of living in regard to housing accommodation. We are probably unaware of the full extent of this, and although by means of new Bye-laws, more frequent inspections and in other ways we are doing our best to deal with the worst cases, there seems to be no immediate remedy for many of the difficulties.

(D). Rehousing. The large number of new houses which have had to be allocated to families being displaced from houses to be demolished either in clearance areas or in connection with city improvement schemes, has left comparatively few available for applications based on other grounds.

The Health Department is not responsible for the actual letting, but the arrangements are made in close co-operation with us. Many requests reach me for a preferential recommendation on the ground of ill health of some member of the family and they are often accompanied by medical certificates. Unfortunately it is seldom possible under existing conditions to help these cases unless they are associated with structural defects either incapable of remedy without vacant possession or justifying demolition under the Housing Acts.

I should like here to refer to the appointment in June 1938 of a Woman Sanitary Inspector to work jointly under the Health and Housing Committees. It was intended that for a year or two a large part of her work should consist in visiting the twelve hundred or more Council Houses both for inspection purposes and in order to give such advice and assistance as might seem most helpful. The work is to some extent experimental, but the results already obtained show that an appointment of this kind has met a real need. The social, as distinct from the official or business side of rehousing schemes, is a matter to which increasing importance is rightly being attached, and careful development in several directions is desirable.

Section E

Inspection and Supervision of Food. See pages 52 to 65.

Section F

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

An analysis of notifications received and cases removed to hospital during 1938 in relation to the age and sex of the patients is given on page 74. On page 7, notifications, attack-rates, deaths and death-rates, of the principal diseases are summarised and the figures compared with similar ones for previous years. Further details in regard to particular diseases are given below.

Diphtheria This disease continued to be a source of much anxiety during the year, not only because of the number of notifications, but because of the severity of many of the cases. The incidence of diphtheria, like that of other infectious diseases, tends to rise and fall over a series of years and there is reason to hope that 1938 was a peak year. It is probable that if immunisation of Bath children on a large scale was carried out, and continued amongst infants as they reach their second year, further periods of high incidence could be largely avoided. Although this is not likely to happen, we shall do our best to bring about an improvement by such means. (See below).

The cases notified numbered 181, as compared with 128 in 1937. There were 10 deaths, which gives a mortality of 5.5 per cent. Further comments are to be found on pages 43 to 45, and on page 18 of my report as School Medical Officer.

Antitoxin is always available at the Health Office for use by private practitioners and is supplied free of charge in suitable cases. 180,000 units in all were distributed in 1938. Apart from this, it is of course freely used at the Isolation Hospital, where the dose given usually varies from 8,000 units in a mild case to 40,000 or more in a severe one. See page 44.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

As reported last year, arrangements have been made for the immunisation of all Bath children whose parents are willing. The first sessions were held in January, 1938, and except during holiday periods they continued regularly during the year. Nearly all acceptances received so far have been the result of distributing a special leaflet through the

Infants' Schools, the Infant Welfare Centres, and by the Health Visitors, and these have provided us with all the cases with which we have been in a position to deal. Other methods of propaganda will be needed later, especially in the absence of the stimulus which the existence of cases of diphtheria in a district undoubtedly exerts.

Our procedure is to give 1 c.c. of T.A.F. at intervals of two or three weeks, without a preliminary Schick test to children at Infants' Schools or below school age. Older children are tested to see whether immunisation is required. A final Schick is offered after an interval of not less than three months to all who have had three immunising doses (none of these have subsequently been notified as suffering from diphtheria).

The number of children immunised or found to be immune during the year was 656.

The number removed from the "current" to the "completed" file was 319 (291 school children; 28 below school age). Of these, 35 were negative to a preliminary Schick, 215 were confirmed by a final Schick, 54 were given three injections but did not accept the offer of a final Schick, and in 15 the procedure was abandoned after one or two injections.

Of 675 in the current file, 352 had received three injections, 172 one or two injections, and 145 were waiting to be given an appointment. Six had been found to need a further immunising dose.

The total number of injections given was 2,160 and 419 Schick tests were carried out.

Scarlet Fever. The notifications numbered 99, as compared with 78, 124 and 89 in the three preceding years. The cases generally were of a mild type, but serious and fatal complications unfortunately occurred in three patients.

Enteric or Typhoid Fever Two cases occurred. One was a Para B infection in a girl of 15. The other was apparently a true typhoid, the patient being a woman of 50. In neither instance were we able to trace the source of infection, nor were any associated cases discovered.

Small-pox. No cases were notified. We have an arrangement with the Wilts County Council by which patients can be moved to a special Hospital in the County. See Report for 1928, page 11.

Vaccination. About seven out of every eight infants born in Bath remain unvaccinated.

Influenza. Thirteen deaths were attributed to this cause, as compared with 43 in 1937 and an average of 10 for the three preceding years.

Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia. Twelve cases were notified—all as pyrexia. Eight patients received treatment at the Royal United Hospital. There was one death, which occurred at a nursing home. The other of the two deaths mentioned on page 25 as resulting from puerperal sepsis took place away from Bath.

No cases of poliomyelitis, cerebro-spinal fever, encephalitis lethargica, dysentery, psittacosis, anthrax or malaria were known to have occurred.

Disinfection continues to be carried out on the lines described in previous reports—see 1935, page 42, and 1930, page 36.

For Hospital procedure and administration see page 43.

For Tuberculosis, Venereal Diseases, and Cancer, see pages 46 to 51.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED, ADMITTANCES TO HOSPITAL, AND DEATHS DURING THE YEAR 1938.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	99	83	3
Diphtheria	181	195*	10
Enteric Fever	2	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	12	9	1
Pneumonia	31	5	5
Erysipelas	33	5	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	5	2	—

* Including 17 "carriers."

An analysis of cases under age groups will be found on page 74 and for deaths on pages 72 and 73.

LABORATORY WORK.

The City undertakes the following pathological examinations free of charge for private practitioners: (a) throat and nose swabs; (b) blood and other material in suspected typhoid; (c) sputum for tubercle bacillus; (d) sputum in pneumonia (added 1935); (e) blood specimens and slides in suspected venereal disease; (f) for certain other conditions, including puerperal pyrexia.

In addition, a considerable number of investigations are made in connection with the Isolation Hospital, the School Clinics, the Tuberculosis Dispensary, and the Venereal Diseases Clinic at the Royal United Hospital.

Pathological Examinations. The following table indicates the nature and extent of the examinations made during 1938 and also the places where they were undertaken:--

Examinations		Positive.	Negative.	Total.
b	Diphtheria Bacillus	294	2283	2577
b	ditto virulence	11	15	26
ab	Gonococcus	37	47	84
a	Wassermann Reaction			132
b	Widal tests		8	8
b	Faeces			2
c	Tubercle Bacillus—sputum			81
d	Ringworm Fungus			*
b	Cerebro-spinal fluid			1
b	Analysis of Urine			37
b	Blood for urea			1
b	Blood Count and haemoglobin estimation			3

a Bristol University Department of Preventive Medicine.

b Bath Central Laboratory. *c* Tuberculosis Dispensary.

d School Clinic.

* Exact numbers not available.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL

The Hospital, which was rebuilt during the years 1930-1934, stands on an area of about seven acres on Claverton Down, three miles from the centre of the city and at a height of 500 feet above sea level. A full description, with illustrations and plans, was included in my report for 1934.

Accommodation is provided for 70 patients in four blocks, one of which is a cubicle block with ten rooms. One of the cubicle wards is fitted up for use as a small theatre. Altogether, there are 22 separate wards or rooms, so that a considerable variety of diseases and complications can be admitted. In addition, we have an administration block with accommodation for the nursing and domestic staff; a laundry and technical block; a mortuary; and two houses for the resident engineer and chauffeur-gardener. During 1938 additional accommodation for five nurses was provided by extending the upper floor of the east wing of the administrative block over the existing flat roof. The rooms were ready for occupation on February 1st, 1939. The new salary scale for the nursing staff to which I referred last year is printed on page 542 of Council Minutes for 1938. Once more we were greatly indebted to the Mayor's Employment Scheme for labour to continue the laying out of the grounds.

Hospital Statistics. January 1st to December 31st, 1938.

	Number.		Deaths.	
Cases admitted as :	City.	Rural.	City.	Rural.
Diphtheria	179	45	9	3
Scarlet Fever	83	8	—	—
Diphtheria Carriers	17	1	—	—
Mumps	2	—	—	—
Observation	7	3	2	—
Measles	10	1	—	—
Rheumatic Fever	1	—	—	—
Tuberculosis (pulmonary) ...	2	—	—	—
Erysipelas	5	4	—	—
Chicken-pox	2	1	—	1
Tonsillitis	1	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	3	—	—	—
Post diphtheritic paralysis ...	1	—	—	—
Totals	313	63	8	4

	Number of "patient-days"	Average daily No. in Hospital.	Monthly average. Maximum.	Minimum.
1938 ...	14626	40.1	55	30
1937 ...	11565	31.7	52	19
1932-36 ...	9857	27.0	40	16
1927-31 ...	8738	23.9	36	14

Clinical Notes, 1938 Ten consultations were held with ear, nose and throat specialists and seven of these were followed by operation at the hospital. The operations were 1 tracheotomy, 2 antral irrigations under anaesthetic, and 4 mastoids (one patient had a second operation for tonsillectomy). Our theatre was also used for an appendicectomy in a child with mumps.

In five of the diphtheria cases the diagnosis was considered doubtful or not confirmed. One case sent in as scarlet fever proved to be measles.

Three patients admitted for other diseases suffered also from whooping cough and one suffered from mumps—all contracted before admission. Cross infection occurred on three occasions, one patient developing scarlet fever, one measles, and one whooping cough.

One patient classified as diphtheria was considered to be suffering at the same time from scarlet fever.

During a period of considerable pressure in the diphtheria wards three patients were transferred to the Mangotsfield Isolation Hospital in accordance with an informal understanding, but on balance the help given to us was less than that which we were able to render to the Mangotsfield Hospital.

One diphtheria patient was readmitted many months later with scarlet fever, and one with scarlet fever came back later with diphtheria. Only one scarlet fever " relapse " was noted.

There were 224 cases of diphtheria with 12 deaths, giving a case mortality of a little over 5 per cent. Seven of the deaths occurred less than 48 hours after admission. A classification based on the amount of serum considered necessary—there was a tendency to give larger doses in view of the virulence of the type—shows the following :—

Very severe	40,000 units or more	...	50 cases.
Severe	20,000—39,000	...	81 cases.
Moderate severity	10,000—19,000	...	67 cases.
Mild	Less than 10,000	...	26 cases.
			224 cases.

Ten patients were admitted for observation :—

Provisional diagnosis.	*Considered to be—*
Diphtheria	Streptococcal infection (3 cases).
Laryngeal diphtheria	Croup (2 cases).
	*Broncho-pneumonia.
Diphtheritic otitis	*Tuberculous meningitis.
Typhoid	Influenza.
Miliary tuberculosis	Non-tuberculous.
Tonsillitis	Scarlet fever.

* Patient died.

Patients were admitted by request from :—

Bath and Wessex Children's Orthopaedic Hospital, 2 :—
Diphtheria, 1 ; Scarlet fever, 1.

Royal United Hospital, 12 :—
Scarlet fever, 5 (including 3 staff); Erysipelas, 2; Measles, Rheumatic fever, Mumps (staff), Whooping Cough, and for observation, 1 each.

Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases :—
Scarlet fever, 4 (including 2 staff).

Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital :—1 for observation.

Eye Infirmary :—Measles, 4 (including 2 staff).

Forbes Fraser Hospital :—Scarlet fever, 1.

Other admissions included 6 cases of diphtheria and a carrier from an industrial school, 3 cases and a carrier from one boarding school, and 2 cases of scarlet fever from the staff of another; an hotel visitor with chicken-pox, and two maids from our own hospital with diphtheria.

The Medical Officer of Health is the Medical Superintendent and is responsible for the treatment of patients. Cases of infectious disease from the Bathavon Rural District and occasionally from other areas are admitted by arrangement.

The whole of the nursing staff is immunised against diphtheria.

CANCER

During 1938 the number of deaths attributed to cancer (1 sarcoma) was 159. This is 10 more than last year, but 2 less than the maximum of 161 in 1934. The increase in the number of deaths does not necessarily mean a greater liability on the part of the community to contract the disease—some part of it at least is due to a larger number of people reaching the higher age groups in which malignant disease mainly occurs. It seems, as a matter of fact, from the figures for the last 10 or 15 years in England and Wales that after correcting for differences in the age and sex constitution of the population, cancer among women has remained stationary during that period, while in men there has been a slight but continuous increase. Further analysis indicates that the increase has been mainly restricted to certain sites or organs, and has scarcely affected other parts of the body which are susceptible to the disease. An analysis of the Bath deaths according to age and sex is given on page 72.

The measures taken by the Authority to alleviate to some extent the hardship and discomfort to which both patients and their relations are liable have been described at length in several previous reports (e.g., 1936, pages 47-48, and 1925, page 33).

In connection with the Council's scheme there were 72 names on the register during 1938—three more than in 1937. Of these, 26 had been brought forward from 1937. During the year 32 patients are known to have died, one left Bath, and 4 had their names removed from the list as apparently cured or no longer in need of assistance. This leaves 35 to be carried forward to 1939. Assistance was actually given to 70 patients. In 45 cases the cost of home nursing undertaken by the staff of the District Nursing Association was paid for by the Council at the agreed rate of 9d. a visit. The total number of visits amounted to 2,477, but the number varied from 3 to 330 in individual instances. The patients were not in a position to pay nursing fees and no insurance money was available for the purpose. Twenty-six patients were supplied with dressings and disinfectants through the Health Office. The Council also pays half the cost, in approved cases, of treatment by deep ray therapy arranged through the Royal United Hospital and of radium treatment given at that Hospital. In 1938, 19 patients received treatment by deep ray therapy; 8 by radium; and 2 by both deep ray and radium. One other was helped with railway fares for special treatment in London.

BLIND PERSONS

The Blind Persons Act of 1920 is administered by the City Council through the Health Committee in conjunction with the Bath Society for the Blind. Since April 1st, 1934, relief has been administered direct by the City Council, who also assumed control of the workshop.

The number of registered blind persons in the City at the end of March, 1939, was 170. This includes 13 accepted during the previous twelve months after examination by an eye surgeon. Two others were also examined, but were found not to be blind within the meaning of the Act. Eighty-nine received grants, which varied from 2/6 to 37/6 a week. The net cost to the City, after deducting £368 for sale of articles made at the workshop, was £3,227.

TUBERCULOSIS

The scope of the Council's scheme may be inferred from the description of the various activities which are carried on. The whole of the work is under the direct control of the Health Committee; the Medical Officer of Health is in charge of the administrative side; one of the Assistant Medical Officers is the Clinical Tuberculosis Officer; and there is a fully trained nurse who devotes all her time to visiting patients, helping the doctor at the Dispensary and keeping records.

Notifications and deaths. The significance of the figures relating to notifications and deaths was discussed in my last report (pages 46-47). Although both were higher in 1938 than in 1937, there is no reason to think that they indicate any change in the generally favourable outlook in regard to this disease.

Of the 59 notifications for 1938, 18 pulmonary (no non-pulmonary) had died by 31st March, 1939, 7 within three months of notification. Twenty-eight of them were included among admissions to sanatoria during the year, 27 to Winsley and 1 elsewhere.

The total number of cases on the Register of Notifications on 31st December, 1938, was 290. A year previously it was 337.

An analysis of notifications according to age and sex is given on page 74, and a similar analysis of deaths on page 72.

Of the 43 patients who died in the city (there were 2 "inward transfers"), 4 had not been notified—2 pulmonary and 2 non-pulmonary. The ratio of non-notified to total deaths was 9 per cent. Generally speaking, notification is carried out satisfactorily in the area, and there is no occasion for action on the ground of wilful neglect or refusal to notify.

The Dispensary is at 26, Charles Street where one morning, one evening, and two afternoon sessions are held each week. The following figures are taken from the returns made to the Ministry of Health.

Patients referred to Dispensary for examination ...		197
Found tuberculous	57	
Contacts examined		94
Found tuberculous	2	
Total attendances, including above		1691
Tuberculosis Officer's visits to patients at home or inst.		138
X-ray examinations		194

There is no X-ray apparatus at the Dispensary, but full facilities are available by arrangement with a local practitioner who has adequate and modern equipment.

Milk was distributed at the Council's expense, to 66 individual patients in 1938. The cost for the year ended 31st March, 1939, was £75.

During the year the City Tuberculosis Health Visitor paid 1,775 effective home visits, as well as being in regular attendance with the Medical Officer at the Clinic.

Sanatorium Treatment. The Council has purchased and maintains 14 beds at Winsley Sanatorium. This Institution, which is six miles from the City, was founded in 1904, and since the beginning of 1936 has had 135 beds. It is intended for cases of early tuberculosis in adults and is reserved almost exclusively for patients sent by the Councils of Wilts, Bristol and Bath.

In addition to those at Winsley, a number of beds are available for tuberculous children and for adults with non-pulmonary tuberculosis in institutions approved by the Ministry of Health for the purpose. Children suffering from crippling defects due to tuberculosis are sent to

the Bath and Wessex Children's Orthopaedic Hospital at Combe Park. During 1938, 33 individual patients were discharged from Winsley on completion of treatment; 4 from Combe Park (three to their homes and one to the Dorset Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital at Swanage); and one each from the Beckford Orthopaedic Hospital near Warminster; the Royal Sea Bathing Hospital at Margate; the National Children's Home Sanatorium at Harpenden, and St. Michael's Home at Axbridge. At the end of the year, 17 patients were receiving institutional treatment—13 at Winsley; 2 at Beckford Hospital; 1 at Swanage; and one at King George's Sanatorium, Liphook.

The Winsley patients were classified by the Medical Officer of that institution on discharge as follows:—

Fit for work	...	...	11
Improved	...	...	13
Not improved	...	...	9

No residential accommodation for cases of advanced pulmonary tuberculosis is included in the Council's scheme, but two special wards are available for such patients at Frome Road Infirmary. On the average about 10 beds are in occupation. The facilities for care and treatment there are excellent. The existing arrangements, however, fall short of what is desirable because of the inevitable association with the Poor Law, and the possibility of improving our present scheme is being carefully considered.

General Observations. Artificial light treatment is available at the City Bathing Establishment, but comparatively little use is made of it.

Artificial pneumothorax refills are done by arrangement at the Winsley Sanatorium. During 1938, 10 individual patients had 96 refills.

The Tuberculosis After-Care Committee give a great deal of valuable assistance to the poorer section of our patients, not in the form of direct money grants for ordinary maintenance, but in a variety of other ways. The annual report for the year ending October, 1938, refers to the following activities:—Distribution of 19 parcels of clothing; holiday railway fares to four patients; provision of bedsteads and mattresses to two patients; purchase of knitted garments; special coal allow-

ance to one patient; and the distribution of 14 parcels of groceries and 21 cwts. of coal at Christmas from the proceeds of a whist drive. The Committee is linked up with the Health Committee, but apart from a small grant for administrative expenses, receives no financial aid from the Council.

The Council owns two hut shelters which are in constant use for selected cases.

No action was taken during the year under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925. No formal use was made of section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

VENEREAL DISEASES

Under the Council's scheme provision is made for free treatment at the Royal United Hospital by a senior member of the Hospital staff. Three clinics are held each week from 5 to 6.30 p.m., on Tuesdays for women, and on Fridays and Saturdays for men. Treatment can also be obtained any other time, day or night, if necessary. The cases dealt with are mainly those from Bath and from the neighbouring parts of Somerset and Wilts. The Hospital pays all expenses and makes a pro rata charge on an agreed scale to the authorities concerned, the City's share during the year ended 31st March, 1939, being 73% of the total.

	1938.	1937.	Average 1931-35
Number of new patients	65‡	81	69
*Total number of out-patient attendances...	1427	1218	1361
†Average cost of each attendance ...	5/11	6/7	5/10
Total number of "in-patient" days ...	25	46	13

NOTES:—**i.e.*, seen by Medical Officer—not "intermediate treatment." The number of irrigations was 2368, (1,692 in 1937).

†Year ended 31st March, following.

‡Syphilis, 22; Gonorrhœa, 26; Soft Chancre, 0; Not Venereal, 17.

All the above figures refer to Bath only.

For details as to the number of pathological examinations made, see page 42.

The arsenical compounds used were silver salvarsan, novarsenobillon, sulpharsenol, tryparsamide, mapharside and stovarsol (by mouth). Many injections of bismostal were also given.

A very small number of Bath patients treated at Clinics elsewhere are not included.

The increased number of attendances, both ordinary and for "intermediate" treatment is a satisfactory feature of the figures given above.

Educational and propaganda work in connection with venereal disease is in the hands of the Bath branch of the British Social Hygiene Council, to which suitable financial help is given on the recommendation of the Health Committee. A great deal of valuable work was done during the year and increasing recognition is being given to the importance of creating a sound public opinion on matters relating to "social hygiene"—using that term in a much broader sense than having reference only to the prevention of disease. A number of lectures and film demonstrations were given to selected audiences, including a series of talks on "The Problem of Adolescence" by Dr. T. Drummond Shields. The Branch is anxious to co-operate with other societies, associations, and groups in the city by providing lectures and films bearing on Social Hygiene. A separate report is published by the Branch.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND OTHER OFFICER'S SUPERANNUATION ACT, 1922

Since the commencement of the Council's scheme on 1st October, 1934, every appointment to an established post under the Council has been subject to a satisfactory report by the Medical Officer of Health on the health of the selected candidate. The number of such posts is approximately 900, of which rather more than 600 are workmen. The number of medical examinations carried out by the staff is as follows:—

1934	...	...	...	9
1935	...	...	...	76
1936	...	...	...	62
1937	...	...	...	106
1938	...	...	...	163

The further large increase in the number of examinations was associated to some extent with the coming into force on April 1st, 1939, of the Local Government Superannuation Act of 1937.

In addition, special reports are made on those claiming a pension on the ground of ill health.

Annual Report

OF THE

Chief Sanitary Inspector

For the Year 1938

To His Worship the Mayor and to the Aldermen and Councillors of the City of Bath.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration, a report on the work carried out in the Sanitary Officers' Department during 1938.

Perhaps the most important improvement effected during the year was that in respect of water supplies, and it is hoped that the time is not far distant when all houses within the City will be connected with the City's main supply.

Meat and Food inspection received every attention, and the fact that 98.5 per cent. of the animals killed in the City were inspected, speaks highly of the work of the inspectors in this connection. The provision of a public abattoir is anxiously awaited, particularly as it would enable the slaughtering and post-mortem examination of carcases to be carried out under more satisfactory and hygienic conditions.

It is gratifying to report that the number of cases of food adulteration was much less than in preceding years.

Considerable progress was made in respect of Housing and Overcrowding, as may be seen from the Report of the Medical Officer of Health. The transfer of people from insanitary houses to the Council Housing Estates where they are able to enjoy healthier and brighter existence, is a branch of social reform which cannot receive too much attention, and although much has already been done to improve the housing conditions of the working classes, many unsatisfactory areas have

still to be dealt with. It is anticipated that a considerable portion of the Department's time during the next ten years will need to be devoted to this work.

The rapidly changing legislation during the past few years has put considerable additional work on the staff, and necessitated a good deal of re-organisation in the Department, both in administration and office routine.

One addition to the staff was made during the year, Miss C. M. Durward being appointed as Woman Sanitary Inspector. Miss Durward came to us with good credentials, and has justified her appointment in every way.

In general, the year has been one of unceasing activity, and the satisfactory results obtained are due in a large measure to the splendid way in which all members of the inspectorial and clerical staff have responded, and I tender to them my appreciation.

I desire to acknowledge with sincere thanks, the cordial support which I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, and I am again particularly indebted to Dr. Blackett, for his constant help.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Yours faithfully,
A. TYLER,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK, ETC., 1938

No. of inspections, re-inspections, etc.

Housing Acts	962
Public Health Act, ...	1202
Common Lodging-houses	14
Houses Let in Lodgings	193
On receipt of applications for Council Houses...	334
Houses occupied by prospective Council house tenants	144

Continued on next page.

Of void Council Houses	117
For Overcrowding	273
Factories	144
Out-workers' Premises	6
Bakehouses	44
Shops Acts	403
Schools	14
Dairies	108
Cowsheds	39
Food premises	167
Butchers shops	542
Slaughter-houses	3292
Merchandise Marks Act	280
Infectious disease	306
Vermin	35
Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act	895
Smoke Abatement (Industrial)	31
Drains	612
Offensive Trades	34
Places of Public Entertainment	12
Piggeries	21
Tents, Vans and Sheds	9
Water supplies	150
Miscellaneous visits not recorded above ..	804
Total No. of inspections, re-inspections, visits of inquiry, etc.	11,187

Notices Served :

Public Health Acts.	(a) Intimation	422
	(b) Statutory	48
Bath Corporation Act, 1925	(a) Intimation ..	22
	(b) Statutory ..	2
Housing Acts (Section 9.11.155.168)		116
Shop Acts, 1912-34		24
Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919		47
Milk and Dairies Order, 1926		4
Merchandise Marks Act, 1926		46

Continued on next page.

Houses Let in Lodgings Byelaws	29
Public Health (Meat Regulations)	8
Butchers shops, Bakehouses and other Food Premises	13
Requiring cleansing of premises	86
,, provision of dustbins	22
,, lime-washing of Slaughter-houses	5
,, abatement of Smoke nuisances ..	9
,, ,, ,, Overcrowding	22

Nuisances Abated.

From defective water-closets and urinals	41
,, ,, drains, soil-pipes, etc.	127
,, ,, rainwater pipes, eaves gutters, etc.	86
,, ,, roofs, walls, etc.	199
,, ,, sinks, troughs, lavatory basins, etc.	76
,, ,, waste pipes, etc.	93
,, ,, floors	107
,, ,, yards and outbuildings	30
,, ,, chimneys (domestic)	2
,, keeping of animals	4
,, dampness	71
,, smoke emission (Industrial)	7
,, offensive accumulations	21
,, overcrowding	75
In Slaughter-houses	25
,, Cowsheds, Dairies, etc.	13
,, Factories	38
,, Shops	72
,, Food premises	39
,, Tents, Vans and Sheds	1

Other Works carried out.

No. of smoke or other tests applied to drains	280
,, drains repaired, relaid or reconstructed	171
,, new W.C. pans	84
,, new sinks	77
,, houses provided with a proper water supply	29

,, water storage systems abolished	9
,, additional water-closets provided	32
,, ,, water supply and sinks provided	13
,, washing accommodation provided	13
,, food stores provided	5
,, verminous premises cleansed	14
,, other premises cleansed	44
,, premises cleared of rats	85
,, windows repaired or renewed	105
,, general internal repairs	122
,, samples of water analysed chemically and bacteriologically	61
,, premises disinfected after infectious disease, etc. ..	408
,, ,, supplied with disinfectants	74
,, ,, cleansed, limewashed, etc.	42
,, Miscellaneous works not classified above	84
No. of complaints received and investigated	689
,, ,, referred to other Departments	58

FOOD INSPECTION

The following is a record of the work done by the Inspectors in connection with food inspection during the year :—

Inspection and re-inspections of Cowsheds	39
,, ,, ,, ,, Dairies	108
,, ,, ,, ,, Slaughterhouses	3292
,, ,, ,, ,, Butchers' Shops	542
,, ,, ,, ,, Bakehouses	44

As a result of these visits, the following improvements were effected :—

Premises cleansed	42
Ventilation provided or improved	7
Floors and walls repaired or cleansed	11
Lighting improved	5
Miscellaneous improvements	12

MEAT INSPECTION

The total number of animals slaughtered during the year was 29,922, of which 29,569 were examined.

Details of the meat condemned are set out in the following table :—

MEAT INSPECTION, 1938.

	Total.	Cattle Excldg. Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs (Incldg those at Bacon Fact.)
Animals killed	29922	1369	193	6556	8332	13472
Animals examined	29569	1361	193	6388	8224	13403
MEAT CONDEMNED. ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS.						
Whole carcases condemned		2	2	5	2	75
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned		166	63	14	141	1020
Percentage of the number affected with disease other than Tuberculosis		11.6	33.6	0 29	1.7	8.6
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.						
Whole carcases condemned		4	7	—	—	62
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned		117	73	1	—	1639
Percentage of the number affected with Tuberculosis		8.8	41.4	0.015	—	12,6

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Weight of the meat condemned ...	56	8	1	9
OTHER MEAT AND FOOD CONDEMNED :—				
Imported Beef		3	2	0
,, Corned Beef				14
,, Livers			1	23
,, Tongues				14
,, Mutton (boiled) ...			1	14
Turkeys				23
Fish fillets		1	1	0
Fresh herrings		1	0	18
TOTAL WEIGHT of Meat and other Foods Condemned	56	15	2	3

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924.

Keen supervision has been exercised throughout the year with respect to the provisions of the above Regulations, and a considerable number of inspections were made on Sundays and evenings. (Slaughtering took place on almost every Sunday throughout the year).

Appropriate action was taken in respect of the following contraventions:—

Failure to notify intention to slaughter	8
Meat removed from slaughterhouse prior to inspection	3
Slaughterhouses not kept in cleanly state	16
Accumulations in slaughterhouses	6
Meat exposed for sale outside of shops	4
Trimmings not kept in properly covered receptacles	2
Refusing information	1

Transport.

Vehicles not kept in cleanly state	2
Meat on vehicles not properly protected	3

Legal Proceedings.

Two cases taken. See Page (71).

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

This Act requires that animals shall only be slaughtered by licensed slaughtermen and that previous to killing, the animals shall be stunned by a mechanically operated instrument. No contraventions were detected during the year.

New licences	2
Licences renewed	2
Licences not renewed	2
No. of slaughtermen now licenced by the Corporation	56

Co-operation with Inspector G. H. Howarth, R.S.P.C.A., resulted in several "humane-killers" which had become worn or otherwise defective, being replaced by new instruments.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

The need for a public abattoir is still urgent. Apart from the more hygienic conditions under which the slaughtering and dressing of animals would take place, difficulties encountered in inspection would be considerably reduced.

No. of slaughterhouses in use in the City	16
,, ,, visits during the year	3292
,, ,, Notices served re limewashing	5
,, ,, ,, to abate nuisances	3

Cattle Market.

Frequent visits were made by the Inspectors for the purposes of food inspection. Mr. C. E. Weeks, Markets Superintendent, has co-operated in this work, and I tender to him my thanks for his useful services.

WATER SAMPLING

Having regard to the potential dangers from water supplies which are liable to pollution, extensive enquiries were made to locate premises supplied with water from springs or wells, and samples of the water were taken for chemical and bacteriological examination. Forty-eight such supplies were sampled, and in 13 cases repeat samples were taken. Of the 48 samples, no less than 29 were found to be unsafe; 22 of the supplies being to dwelling houses, 4 to dairy farms, and 3 to watercress beds.

In each case notice was served upon the owner or occupier requiring steps to be taken to provide a pure and wholesome supply of water and pending such steps being taken, the occupiers were advised to boil the water.

The following is a summary of the action taken :—

No. of supplies sampled	48
,, ,, repeat samples taken	13
,, ,, supplies found to be unsafe—dealt with as below ...	29
,, ,, ,, to dwelling houses replaced with supply from City main	13
,, ,, ,, to dairy farms replaced with supply from City main	1

Alternative suitable supply provided	1
Cause of pollution removed and subsequent samples satisfactory	3
Use of watercress beds discontinued	2
†Watercress held in tanks containing City water before being sold	1
Tenants advised to boil water pending demolition of the houses (3)	1
House demolished	1
*Action still pending	6

† This precaution approved by Public Analyst.

* Since December 31st, 1938, 3 of these supplies have been replaced with supplies from the City mains.

FOOD AND DRUGS ADULTERATION ACT, 1928.

During the year 231 samples of foods and drugs were taken for analysis. This number represents 3.36 samples per 1000 population. Of the 231 samples analysed, eight or 3.46 per cent. were reported as being adulterated.

The percentage of adulterated samples for each of the previous five years as compared with percentages for the whole of England and Wales over the same period are as follows :—

	CITY OF BATH			ENGLAND AND WALES		
Year	Number examined.	Number adulterated.	Percentage adult'ed.	Number examined.	Number adult'ed.	Percentage adult'ed.
1933	280	23	8.0	138,171	7,601	5.5
1934	285	21	7.3	140,583	7,451	5.3
1935	240	19	8.9	143,831	7,972	5.5
1936	236	22	9.3	146,438	7,802	5.3
1937	248	13	5.2	151,370	8,401	5.5
1938	231	8	3.46			

The wide variety of foods and drugs examined may be seen in the following table :—

Nature of sample	No. of samples taken	Nature of sample	No. of samples taken
Amm. Tincture of Quinine	2	Cafe au lait	1
Baking Powder	2	Castor Oil	1
Beef Suet	1	Cheese	5
Beer	3	Chicken and Ham Roll ...	1
Butter	4	Cocoa	1

Continued on next page.

Nature of sample	No. of samples taken
Coffee and Chicory ...	4
Coffee Extract	1
Confectionery	2
Cooking Fat	2
Cream (tinned)	1
Currants	5
Dripping	1
Egg Powder	1
Fish Paste	3
Flour	2
Gravy Browning	1
Gravy Salt	2
Ground Ginger	1
Health Salts	2
Herring Roes	2
Honey	1
Horseradish (pickled) ...	1
Jam	7
Kipper Snacks	1
Lard	5
Lemonade	1
Lemonade Crystals ...	1
Lemon Barley	1
Lemon Cheese	2
Margarine	5
Malt Food	1
Marmalade	1
Meat Paste	4
Milk, Condensed	6
„ New	81
„ Tuberculin Tested ...	2

Nature of sample	No. of samples taken
Mincemeat	1
Mixed Spice	1
Mustard	1
Ointment	8
Olive Oil	1
Orange	1
Peas	2
Pea Flour	1
Pepper	2
Pickles	1
Polonies, Savaloys, etc. ...	4
Raisins	1
Rice	3
Rice Pudding (packet) ...	1
Salad Cream	2
Salmon	1
Sardines	2
Sauce	5
Sausages	4
Shell Fish (tinned) ...	4
Stuffing	1
Sultanas	2
Tapioca	3
Tea	2
Tomatoes (tinned)	1
Turmeric Root	1
Vaseline	2
Vinegar	1
Whiskey	1
	231

Seven samples of milk were found to be adulterated, but apart from these, the only adulteration detected was in respect of a sample of wood vinegar which contained 4.1 per cent. of acetic acid. The vendor was cautioned.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

The number of samples submitted for bacteriological examination was 23, viz.,

Tuberculin tested (Certified)	2
Accredited	3
Pasteurised	18

One of the T.T. (Certified) samples failed to pass the test for Coliform Bacillus. All the accredited samples passed the appropriate Tests. Of the 18 Pasteurised samples, 17 passed the Phosphatase Test, although 3 showed counts of more than 100,000 bacteria per millimetre.

Twenty-two licences were granted during the year :—

	T.T. Certified	T.T.	Accredited	Pasteurised
Producers' Licence ...	1 ...	– ...	1 ...	–
Dealers' ,, ...	2 ...	8 ...	– ...	7
Pasteurisers' ,, ...	– ...	– ...	– ...	2
Supplementary ,, ...	– ...	1 ...	– ...	–
	3 ...	9 ...	1 ...	9

PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES, etc., IN FOOD), REGULATIONS, 1925-27.

The following 41 articles to which preservatives are allowed to be added under the Regulations were examined during the year :—Baking Powder 2, Beer 3, Coffee Extract 4, Jam 9, Pickles 2, Raisins 1, Sauce 5, Sausages and Sausage Meat 13, Sultanas 2. In no case was the permissible amount of preservative exceeded or any prohibited colouring matter added.

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

During the year 39 inspections of cowsheds and 108 inspections of dairies were made. In only 4 cases was it necessary to serve notices for the remedying of defects, cleansing, etc. The water supplies to 4 dairy farms were examined and all were found to be polluted. In one case the occupier eventually had a City supply laid on; and in the others, steps were taken to remove the cause of pollution. Subsequent samples were taken and found to be satisfactory. Two vendors were observed pouring milk into bottles otherwise than on registered premises, and both were cautioned.

No. of Registered dairymen	117
,, resident in Bath	87
,, ,, outside of Bath	30
,, of Producers in Bath who sell milk Retail	16
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, Wholesale	2
,, ,, ,, in outside districts who retail in Bath ...	28
,, ,, Retailers :—from shops only	16
,, vehicle or round only	20
,, shop and vehicle or round ...	32
,, ,, milksellers who only sell milk in unopened receptacles ...	4

ARTIFICIAL CREAM ACT, 1929.

There are no premises registered in the City for the manufacture of artificial cream, and as far as could be ascertained by analysis, artificial cream did not enter into the composition of any samples of food submitted to the Public Analyst.

PUBLIC HEALTH (CONDENSED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1923 and 1927

Three "full-cream sweetened" and four "machine-skimmed unsweetened" condensed milks were analysed and all were found to be genuine. The tins were labelled correctly, and contained the requisite percentages of fat and milk solids. All the samples were free from excess acidity, poisonous metals and chemical preservatives.

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926

Various Orders are issued under this Act by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries requiring certain imported articles of food to be labelled or marked in a conspicuous manner to distinguish them from home-grown products. During the year 280 visits were made to shops exposing such articles for sale, and 46 contraventions were detected, chiefly in respect of tomatoes, apples and meat. Notices were served in each case and complied with, without undue delay.

BAKEHOUSES

There were 29 bakehouses, including 3 basement bakehouses, in use during the year, and all were inspected. Four were found to be in

a dirty condition and notices were served in respect thereof. The remainder were maintained in a satisfactory condition.

ADMINISTRATION OF PARTS I AND VIII OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

1. INSPECTIONS for the purpose of provisions as to health.

Premises	No. of Inspections	Written Notices
FACTORIES with mechanical power ...	42	17
FACTORIES without mechanical power ...	102	9
Total	144	26

2. DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars	Number of Defects. Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector
Want of Cleanliness	13	11	2
Overcrowding	–	–	–
Unreasonable temperature ...	–	–	–
Inadequate ventilation ...	–	–	–
Ineffective drainage of floors ...	2	2	–
Sanitary Conveniences—			
Insufficient	4	4	–
Unsuitable or defective ...	14	13	–
Not separate for sexes ...	1	–	–
Other offences	7	8	1
Total	41	38	3

SHOPS ACTS, 1912-1934

No. of primary inspections	275
,, ,, re-inspections	128
Intimation Notices served	21
Statutory ,, ,, ...	3
Forms and Notices provided	19
Hours of employment adjusted	6
Suitable means of heating provided	8
,, ,, ,, lighting ,, ...	2
,, washing facilities ,, ...	4

Continued on next page.

Washing facilities improved	2
Suitable sanitary accommodation provided	3
Sanitary accommodation cleansed or improved	18
Seats for shop assistants provided	2
Miscellaneous improvements	8

Considerable progress was made during the year, and the many improvements effected should prove both useful and beneficial to those employed in shops. On the whole, shopkeepers have very willingly conformed to the many new requirements of the Act of 1934.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

The number of premises used for such purposes were :—

Dealing in rags and bones	3
Gut scraping	1

FISH FRYING

Twenty-eight fish-frying establishments were on the register at 31st December, 1938. All were inspected during the year to ensure that they were maintained in a satisfactory condition.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

Although a few industrial chimneys still give rise to emissions of dense smoke, the duration of such emissions has been considerably reduced. For some years it has been realised that to obtain the best results in smoke abatement it is better to inaugurate Regional Smoke Abatement Councils, who, by holding meetings of representatives of local authorities over a wide area, and co-operating with representatives of industrial undertakings, could discuss the various problems on a broad basis, and make suggestions as to methods of abating the nuisance, with full knowledge as to any particular problem.

Such councils have been in existence for some time in London, Yorkshire and Lancashire, and in July, 1938 the Bristol and District Regional Smoke Abatement Council was inaugurated under the Chairmanship of Ald. J. J. Milton, J.P., of Bristol. The area concerned includes the City of Bristol and districts within 25 miles of Bristol.

The Chairman of the Health Committee (Mr. Councillor W. Barrett) and myself, were appointed as representatives on that Council, and I have since been appointed on the Executive Committee and as Vice-Chairman of the Council.

Two meetings have already been held, classes in smoke abatement for sanitary inspectors, works managers, stokers, etc., are being arranged, and it is hoped that the ultimate effect will be of much value in lessening the smoke nuisances.

The improvements effected in Bath during the year included :—

Height of chimney extended, additional boiler plant installed, forced draught installation, replacement of poor fuel, with better quality fuel, etc.

Thirty-one observations were made during the year, and 7 intimation notices were served. Only in 2 cases was it necessary to serve statutory notices.

DISINFECTION.

The following disinfections were carried out :—

	No. of Premises	No. of Rooms
Scarlet Fever	90	96
Diphtheria	207	238
Tuberculosis	65	74
Cancer	23	29
Other diseases	23	25
TOTAL	408	462

In addition, 39 steam disinfections were carried out.

No. of persons supplied with disinfectants 74

Eradication of Bed Bugs

(1) No. of Council Houses found to be infested ...	33
,, ,, ,, ,, disinfested	33
,, ,, other houses found to be infested ...	5
,, ,, ,, ,, disinfested	5

(2) Disinfestation was carried out by means of Sulphur Di-oxide where infestation appeared to be extensive, and by Zaldecide where localised. Architraves, picture rails, etc. were removed where necessary and treated with blow lamp. The blow lamp was also applied to cracks in plaster and walls where deemed necessary.

(3) As for (2); and in addition, where furniture and bedding were apparently infested, these effects were taken to the disinfecting station and subjected to SO.2 fumigation in a sealed compartment. Tenants in many cases voluntarily destroyed by fire old pictures and certain articles of furniture and bedding which were badly infested.

(4) In all cases the work of disinfestation was carried out by the Local Authority.

(5) A Woman Sanitary Inspector was appointed and commenced her duties in June 1938. A visit was paid by her to all houses on the Corporation Housing Estates with a view to educating tenants, *inter alia* advising them how to prevent infestation and reinfestation. It was as a result of these visits that 30 of the 33 cases mentioned above were detected. Revisits made subsequent to disinfestation appeared to indicate that the tenants had in almost every case taken steps to prevent reinfestation.

CORPORATION'S HOUSING ESTATES

A house-to-house inspection on the various estates was commenced in June 1938. The results obtained were very satisfactory, and amply justify the Council's action in appointing a Woman Sanitary Inspector for this work. Miss Durward states that she has been well received by the tenants, and even where resentment at inspection was shown, an explanation of the reasons for such inspection had in most cases won their confidence. Admission was refused in 12 instances, but notices served under Section 157 of the Housing Act, 1936, had the desired effect. The tenants have, on the whole, shown appreciation of the houses. With very few exceptions the gardens are well kept. Certain improvements were suggested in connection with the domestic washing facilities, and these are receiving attention.

The following is a record of the visits, etc. for the year :—

No. of houses inspected	1406
,, ,, ,, re-inspected	69
,, ,, ,, found to be clean	1086
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, unsatisfactory	221
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, dirty	4
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, verminous	30
,, ,, defects found and reported	227
,, ,, ,, remedied	78
,, ,, houses where admission was refused	12

DETAILS OF THE VARIOUS ESTATES :—

Estate	Clean	Unsatis-factory	Dirty	Verminous
Ballance Street ...	2	–	–	–
Lampard's Buildings ...	22	8	–	5
Broadway (including Dolemeads) ...	20	7	–	3
Archway Street ...	14	1	–	1
Excelsior Street ...	30	5	–	3
Kingsmead Flats ...	43	43	1	18
Englishcombe Park ...	209	20	2	–
Southdown ...	212	23	–	–
Fosse Way ...	303	56	–	–
Innox Park ...	104	18	–	–
Rudmore Park ...	57	3	–	–
Avon Park ...	29	8	–	–
Brassmill Lane ...	20	20	1	–
Charlcombe Lane ...	17	–	–	–
Catsley Place ...	4	9	–	–
TOTALS ...	1086	221	4	30

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

Three Common Lodging Houses were in use during the year. They were frequently inspected and found to be maintained in a satisfactory condition.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS

Notices under the Corporation's Byelaws were served in respect of 29 houses of this type, and as a result numerous improvements were effected. In some cases owners have preferred to reduce the number of families so that the house no longer came within the category of House Let in Lodgings, their reason being that the cost of carrying out the necessary alterations was, in their view, excessive.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS

Two caravans were in use during the year but no complaints were received in respect of them. One shed was used for human habitation, and notice was served on the occupier to vacate it, but this he did not do until warned that legal proceedings would be instituted.

CAMPING SITES

Before allowing a site to be used for camping purposes, persons desiring to do so must now obtain a licence from the local authority. No licences were applied for during the year. The Byelaws with respect to such dwellings now in force in the City, were introduced in 1900. It may therefore be advisable to consider adopting the Ministry's Model Byelaws.

PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT

The report with respect to these places is again satisfactory. Numerous inspections were made, but no serious defects observed, and such minor defects as were found received immediate attention.

CANAL BOATS

For several years there has been a gradual decline in the number of canal boats using those parts of the River Avon and the Kennet and Avon Canal which are within the City boundaries, and during the past year not a single canal boat was observed on these waterways. One canal boat was converted into a house boat, but when action was taken in respect of the water supply and disposal of sewage, the owner removed the boat to a part of the River Avon outside the City.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT. 1919

Considerable attention was given throughout the year to the work of rat repression, but it should again be emphasised that owing to the existence of old culverts in the City, and the fact that some drains discharge direct into the river and canal, the value of such work is considerably lessened.

Advantage was again taken to lay baits (228) in or near various sewers, but it was not possible to ascertain how many of these were taken. Just previous to Rat Week, copies of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries' leaflet No. 49 and Bulletin No. 30, were issued to a large number of occupiers of business premises in the City, and from enquiries made, it may be assumed that many occupiers acted upon the advice contained in the publications.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year :—

Complaints received and investigated	127
Visits and re-visits	895
Defective sewers repaired	9
,, sewer connections repaired	15
,, private drains repaired	10
Intercepting trap stoppers replaced	5
Accumulations removed	15
Premises rat-proofed	30
Water storage Cisterns abolished	9
Drains tested by smoke	10
,, ,, ,, chemicals	85
Gas rockets used	8
Cases where traps advised	55
Red squill baits laid	1138
* ,, ,, ,, known to have been taken	391
Intimation Notices served	43
Statutory Notices served	4

* It was impracticable to ascertain the exact number of baits taken, as many were laid in positions which were later inaccessible.

RAG FLOCK ACTS 1911 and 1928

From time to time samples of rag-flock used in the manufacture of bedding are examined in order to ascertain whether the flock conforms with the standard of cleanliness laid down in the Regulations under the above Acts. Samples on analysis should not contain more than 30 parts per million of Chlorine. Four samples were taken during the year and all conformed to the Regulations; containing 18, 18, 21 and 24 parts per million respectively.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

While every effort was made to obtain observance of the various Acts, Orders, Regulations and Byelaws administered by the Department, without resort to legal proceedings, several contraventions occurred in which legal proceedings were advised:—

	Fined	Costs
Food & Drugs Adulteration Act, 1928.		
Sample of milk, No. 57. Adulterated by fat deficiency to the extent of 13 per cent. ...	£2 0 0	£1 1 0
Public Health Act, 1875.		
Diseased meat in possession of butcher ...	£15 0 0	—
Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.		
Failure to give notice of intention to slaughter	£5 0 0	—
Refusing to give information to Inspector ...	£10 0 0	—
Slaughterhouse Byelaws.		
Live sheep kept in slaughterhouse	£5 0 0	—
Dirty condition of slaughterhouse	£2 0 0	—
Sheep awaiting slaughter penned in sight of blood from carcases	£3 0 0	—

CITY OF BATH

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during the Year 1938.

The Causes of death in this table are not strictly comparable in every case with those prior to 1932 owing to modifications introduced by the Registrar General in 1931

	CAUSES	Persons	M	F	—1		1—2		2—5		5—10		10-15		15-20		20-25		25-35		35-45		45-55		55-60		60-65		65-75		75-80		80–85		85—	
					M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1	Typhoid Fever ...	...	...	...	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...	
2	Measles	1	...	1	...		...		...		...		1		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...	
3	Scarlet-Fever ...	3	1	2	...		...		1			2	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...	
4	Whooping-cough ...	3	2	1	2	1	...		...		...		...		...		..		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...	
5	Diphtheria... ...	10	7	3	...		...		1	2	5		1	1	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...	
6	Influenza	13	5	8	...				...		...		...		...			1	1	2		1	...		2		1	2	...		...		1	2		
7	Erysipelas... ...	1	1	...	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		1		...		...		...		...		...		...	
8	Encephalitis Leth. ...	1	1	...	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		1		...		...		...		...		...		...		...	
9	Cerebro-spinal fever ...	...	...	...	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...	
10	Tetanus	...	...	...	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...	
11	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System...	39	19	20	...		...		...		...		...		1	2		7	6	3	4	5	4		1		3	1		2	...		...		...	
12	Other Tuberculosis ...	6	2	4	...		...			1	...		...		...		...		1	1	1		...			1		1	...		...		...		...	
13	Syphilis	4	3	1	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		1		2			1	...		...		...	
14	Gen. paralysis insane & tabes dorsalis ...	1	1	...	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		1	
15	Cancer	158	65	93	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		1	2	1	2	11	10	4	6	13	16	25	32	6	8	3	8	1	9
16	Sarcoma	1	1	...	...		...		...		...		...		1		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...	
17	Rheumatic Fever ...	3	2	1	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		1	1	...		...		...		...		1		...		...		...	
18	Osteo-Arthritis ...	12	4	8	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		1			3	3	3		1		1
19	Diabetes	16	6	10	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		1	4	...			1	1	2	2	1	1	2	1	
20	Cerebral Hæmorrhage	67	21	46	...		...		...		...		...		...			1	..		1	1	1	2	1	1	5	3	8	14	1	8	4	9		7
21	Heart Disease ...	301	131	170	...		...		...			1	...			1		1	3	2	2	3	9	7	10	5	9	8	33	38	23	30	27	32	15	42
22	Aneurysm	3	2	1	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		1		1		...			1	...		...		...	
23	Arterial Sclerosis ...	75	33	42	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		1			2	4	1	5	2	14	11	5	10	4	8		8
24	Other circulatory diseases	4	3	1	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		1		1		...		1		...			1	...	
25	Bronchitis... ...	15	9	6	1		...		...		...		...		...		...		...			1	...			1	3		2	2	...		1		2	2
26	Pneumonia (all forms)...	46	23	23	3	1		1	2			2	...		...		...			1	1	1	3		1	3	1	2	6	3	3	2	2	4	1	3
27	Other Respiratory diseases	6	3	3	...		...		...		...		...		...		...			1	...		1		1		...		...		1			1		1
28	Peptic Ulcer ...	9	5	4	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		1		1		...		1	1	1	2		1	1		...	
29	Diarrhœa and Enteritis	6	3	3	1		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		1	2	...		...		...			1	1		..		...	
30	Appendicitis ...	4	1	3	...		...		...		...		...			1	...		1		...		...		...			1		1	...		...		...	

CAUSES	Persons	M	F	—1		1—2		2—5		5—10		10–15		15–20		20–25		25–35		35–45		45–55		55–60		60–65		65–75		75–80		80–85		85—	
				M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
31 Cirrhosis Liver ...	3	3	...	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		1		...		...		1		...		1		...	
32 Other diseases of Liver, etc	5	3	2	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		1			1	...		...		1		...		...		1	1
33 Other digestive diseases	9	3	6	...		1		...		...		...		...		...		...		1		...			1	...		1	4		1	...		...	
34 Nephritis	38	16	22	...		...		...		...		1		...			1	1	1	2	1	3	1	4	2	3	4	2	4		7		1		
35 Bladder, Prostate, diseases	12	12	...	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		4		2		3		3		
36 Puerperal sepsis ...	2	...	2	...		...		...		...		...		...		...	2	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		
37 Other puerperal causes	1	...	1	...		...		...		...		...		...		...	1	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		
38 Prematurity; Congenital Malformation, etc. ...	13	9	4	9	4	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		
39 Senility	20	4	16	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		1		2	1	2		1		1	1	4	2	1	1	1	2	7		7
40 Suicide	16	11	5	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		1		2	1	1		1		1	1	4	2	2	1	...		...	
41 Other violence ...	27	17	10	...		...		1		2		2	1	...		4		2		...		1	1		1		1	1	4	2	2	1		1	
42 Other defined causes	74	32	42	1	1	...		1			1	...			1	1	1	2	3	2	4	6	1	6	5	2	6	10	7	3	2	6		1	
43 Ill-defined „ ...	...	...	...	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		
SPECIAL CAUSES : ...	...	...	...	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		
TOTAL	1028	464	564	17	7	1	1	6	3	7	6	3	3	3	5	5	10	17	18	23	21	44	35	30	27	55	42	116	140	58	75	52	86	27	85
1 Walcot North Ward ...	68	31	37	...		...			1	3			1	...		...			4		2	3		2	2	5	2	8	11	9	3	1	5		6
2 Walcot South „ ...	57	33	24	1		...		1		...		2		...			1	1		1		2	2	3	1	2	2	10	6	5	3	3	3	3	5
3 St. Michael „ ...	62	22	40	1		...		...		...		...			2	...		2	3	2	3	2			2	1	1	3	9	5	7	3	7	3	6
4 Lansdown „ ...	80	26	54	2	2	...		...		...		...		...		...		1	2	...		1		2	3	4	5	4	17	4	7	5	10	3	8
5 Weston „ ...	108	48	60	3	2	1		3	1	...		...		...		1	2		1		3	7	4	2	3	7	4	10	15	3	7	8	7	3	11
6 Kingsmead „ ...	79	32	47	2		...		...		...		...		1		...		2	2	1	2	6	2	2	1	2	4	11	9	2	6	2	10	1	11
7 St. James „ ...	57	31	26	1	1	...		...		1		...			1	...		1		2			2	1	3	6		9	7	3	7	6	3	1	2
8 Bathwick „ ...	110	37	73	1		...		...			2	...		...		1	2	1	1		3	1	4	4	3	3	7	10	15	6	10	4	14	6	12
9 Widcombe „ ...	58	27	31	...		...			1	1			1		1	...		1	2	3	1	3	3	4	3	6	4	5	4		5	4	4		2
10 Westmoreland „ ...	62	40	22	2		...		...		...		...		...		1		...		4		7	2	2	4	5	2	9	5	5	2	5	4		3
11 Oldfield „ ...	67	36	31	1		...		...		...			1	1		...		3		2	2	5	4	1		4	1	13	9	4	3	2	6		4
12 Lyncombe „ ...	96	46	50	1			1	...		1	1	1		1			1	1	1	5	1	2	3	5		1	1	5	4	9	17	6	5	4	6	5	10
13 Twerton East „ ...	57	28	29	1	1	...		1		...		...		...		1	1	1	1		1	3	5	1	1	3	4	7	8	6	2	3	3	1	2
14 Twerton West „ ...	67	27	40	1	1	...		1		1	3	...		...		1	3	4		3	3	2	4	1	1	2	2	8	8		8	2	4	1	3
Inward Transfers ...	68	37	31	2	1	...		3		4	3	1	1	...		2	1	2	4	3	2	3		1	1	2	3	11	10	2	3	1	1		1
Outward Transfers ...	181	104	77	7	8		1	...		2		1	1	4	1	3	3	5	4	5	3	15	10	16	6	12	9	20	16	11	5	2	8	1	2
Public Inst. (Residents)	324	158	166	9	4	1		4	3	6	5	2	2	2	4	2	2	10	9	12	11	23	15	10	7	13	11	33	40	14	22	13	14	4	17

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED AND REMOVED DURING 1938

Cases Notified

	At all Ages		Under 1		1—2		2—3		3—4		4—5		5—10		10—15		15—20		20—25		25—35		35—45		45—55		55—65		65 and over	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Diphtheria	83	98	...		1	2	4	1	2	2	3	6	36	27	16	23	7	9	2	8	9	7	3	11		2	...		...	
Scarlet Fever	50	49	...		...		4	1	1	2	7	3	29	24	5	5	2	8		1	1	1	1	3		1	...		...	
Enteric Fever		2	...		...		...		...		...		...		...			1	...		...		...			1	...		...	
Erysipelas	10	23	...		...		...		...		...		...		...			1	2	2	1	2		2	5	8	1	4	1	4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	4	1	4	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...	
Pneumonia	18	13	...		...		1	1		1	...		2	2	1			1	...		2	3	2	1	4	2	1		5	2
Puerperal Pyrexia ...		12	...		...		...		...		...		...		...			2		1		8		1	...		...		...	
Tuberculosis Pulmonary ...	30	20	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		4	6	1	2	10	6	6	1	8	2	1	2		1
„ Non-Pulmonary...	2	7	...		...		1		...		...		...			1		1		2		2	1			1	...		...	
TOTAL NOTIFIED	194	228	1	4	1	2	10	3	3	5	10	9	67	53	22	29	13	29	5	16	23	29	13	19	17	17	3	6	6	7

Cases Removed to Hospital—‡

*Diphtheria	92	103	...		1	2	5	1	1	2	5	4	39	30	20	24	7	10	2	8	9	8	3	12		2	...		...	
Scarlet Fever	41	42	...		...		4	1	1	2	6	3	24	17	3	5	1	9		1	1	1	1	2		1	...		...	
Other Cases	18	16	1		1	1		2	1	1	3		3	5	4	1		1		2	2	1	...		2	1	...		1	1
TOTAL REMOVED	151	161	1		2	3	9	4	3	5	14	7	66	52	27	30	8	20	2	11	12	10	4	14	2	4	...		1	1

‡Excluding Patients from outside the City Area

*Including 17 "carriers."

NOTE—A Summary of Statistics relating to Number of Notifications, Number of Deaths, Incidence and Death Rates of Infectious Diseases, will be found on page 7, an analysis of Deaths according to Age Periods on pages 72 and 73, and a further note in connection with the Notification of Tuberculosis on pages 47 and 48.

BIRTHS, DEATHS UNDER 1 YEAR, AND INFANT MORTALITY, 1938.

	Total			Legitimate			Illegitimate		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Births	469	394	863	448	375	823	21	19	40
Deaths (under one year) ...	17	7	24	17	6	23	—	1	1
Infant Mortality ...	36	18	28	38	16	28	—	53	25

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Cases.			Vision Unimpaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
Notified	Treated					
	At Home	At Hosp.				
5	3	2	5	—	—	—

SUMMARY OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

Taken at 9 a.m. G.M.T., at Henrietta Park.

1938		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Temperatures.	Mean	44·3	42·4	48·4	46·0	52·0	58·9	60·2	61·7	57·2	52·0	50·1	41·0	51·2
	do. Average 35 yrs.	41·0	40·7	43·2	47·0	53·3	57·7	61·5	60·7	57·7	50·7	43·7	41·6	49·8
	Highest	55.6	57·5	65·0	64·2	73·0	78·4	77·0	83·0	76·0	64·1	62·8	55·0	83·0
	Date	24	25	6	7	22	17	21	3	12	13	12	12	3 Aug.
	Lowest	32·8	30·3	27·9	26·2	33·2	43·0	41·1	40·8	37·0	36·7	28·4	21·2	21·2
	Date	11	15	6	18	8	11	1	21	3	31	27	20	20 Dec
Humidity... ...		84	80	79	65	69	69	78	80	82	83	87	88	79
Rainfall.	Total in inches ...	2·97	0·95	0·09	0·11	1·94	1.03	3·09	2·99	3.31	4·59	4·16	3·63	28·86
	No. Wet Days ...	22	9	3	3	14	16	17	17	14	22	23	20	180
	Mean of 70 yrs. ..	2·81	2·27	2·17	2·14	2·03	2·11	2·59	2·88	2·61	3·27	2·83	3·28	31·01
	do. Wet Days ...	15	14	14	13	12	11	13	14	13	16	15	17	167
Sunshine, hours ...		42·4	73·0	153·0	218·0	142·3	202·4	129.4	138·0	125·0	107·6	53·7	54·5	1439·3
Do. Mean of 30 yrs.		50·4	74·0	115·5	152·6	192·3	200·9	200·0	183·7	147·4	100·2	63·2	42·4	1522·8

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